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THE TIMES

A waking nightmare for the Chancellor, page 19

Welsh miners spearhead a nationwide strike

outh Wales miners go on strike today, aiming) spread the dispute to the rest of their industry ıd beyond and presenting the Government with s most serious challenge from the unions. Pitıen in Scotland and Kent said they would strike om Monday in protest against the coal board's lan to close Welsh collieries in several areas.

Government faces its toughest challenge

· Paul Routledge
bour Editor

The Government today faces most critical challenge from e trade unions since taking fice when the South Wales ners go on strike and seek to read disruption to the rest of e coalmining industry and yond. Mr Emlyn Williams, alfield president of the ıtional Union of Mineworkers UM), said yesterday: "I pe that every other industry ll join us in a strike."

Pickets from the strikebound elsh pits are expected to vel to other militant coalılds in an effort to intensify e revolt against National Coal ard plans to close collieries d make miners redundant.

Miners in Scotland and Kent sterday signalled their intene to strike from next Mony, the day that Mr David well, Secretary of State for ergy, and other ministers et leaders of the mining ions and the coal board for ks on the future of the coal lustry.

The Government is putting ether an emergency package social measures designed to se the board's closure proamme through improved dundancy pay and early irement schemes. But Mr seph Gormley, moderate sident of the NUM, insisted t night that such a solution the crisis was "not on".

le said: "If they think they buy us off, they have got wrong. They are not on. I ıt a long-term formula to ure the future of the intry, not just something to to get rid of men."

he coal board yesterday tinued its local meetings h area NUM officials and ounced the impending ure of two more collieries. y are the 83-year-old Newate colliery at Bedworth, rwickshire, which is to be sed by the end of June with loss of 750 jobs; and gton Colliery in Burnley, ıcashire, employing 480 men, ich is to shut because of rave geological difficulties".

By contrast, union leaders in traditionally militant north rbyshire area were told that pits were to be closed in the alfield and they would be ied to increase production by 000 tonnes a year to 8,300,000 nes. Area NUM delegates et today in Chesterfield to ide what support they should d to striking miners in other ılfields.

Pitmen in the productive and profitable south Nottinghamshire area are to hear of their future today, and apart from the accepted closure of New Hucknall colliery, no retrenchment is expected. But when the Scottish miners meet coal board management in Edinburgh tomorrow, the closure of two or three pits will be announced.

Pithead meetings in Scotland are to begin on Friday, the day after the NUM national executive meets to hear the outcome of regional talks with the coal board and decides whether to recommend a national strike in a secret ballot of the men.

Mr Michael McGahey, Scottish miners' president, said yesterday that if there was a strike by miners with steel and rail workers and other trade unionists in support "it would be a battle in which the dimensions of the strikes of 1972 and 1974 would fade into insignificance".

Scottish miners would support every area threatened with closure because there was only one coalfield, the British coalfield. An attack on Durham miners was an attack on Scottish miners.

The pattern of closures emerging so far shows a concentration in the militant coalfields that might be expected to go on unofficial strike ahead of any decision by the national executive.

But the moderate areas, including some heavy lossmakers, have emerged relatively unscathed, and left-wing strategists believe that is a carefully calculated policy on the part of the board to disarm the moderates so that a pithead ballot would reject official strike action.

Mr Gormley last night appealed in vain to the Welsh miners to hold their fire for the sake of unity in the NUM. Pointing out that a 55 per cent majority was required under union rules to call an all-out stoppage, he said: "There are many people in the country today, even members of the union, who have the ability to go to law to make sure the union does not take action if it is against the rules".

He argued that to prevent a national strike, the Government would have to accept that coal imports had to stop and that British coal should be subsidized

Moderates angered and fight for survival, page 2
Pit closures, page 12

Budget refund from European Community lifts balance of payments current account excess to its highest level

Slump in imports brings record UK trade surplus of £757m last month

By Frances Williams

Britain had a record trade surplus of £757m in January, as the economic recession brought a slump in imports.

The surplus on the balance of payments current account, including invisibles, also soared to the highest level of £957m, boosted by budget refunds from the European Community.

The huge trade surplus—which is double that in December and nearly £300m greater than the previous highest in October last year—is almost entirely the result of a slump of 11 per cent in the volume of imports, notably of basic materials for industry. Export volumes also fell by nearly 3 per cent, but in value terms remained steady over the month.

Last November, the Treasury was predicting a surplus on the balance of payments current account of £2,000m in 1981, the same as in 1980.

The relative strength of exports in recent months has confounded predictions that worsening competitiveness, caused by higher domestic costs and the higher sterling exchange rate, would price exports out of foreign markets. Despite an 11 per cent rise in relative export prices over the latest year, the volume of United Kingdom exports has been broadly steady over the last six months or so after falling in the first half of 1980.

This level of exports, though continuing longer than most economists predicted, is unlikely to be maintained. World markets for British goods are growing more slowly than last year, and competitiveness is continuing to deteriorate.

Most forecasters are expecting exports to decline by between 2 per cent and 6 per cent in 1981, with the Treasury putting the figure at 3 per cent, taking into account rising exports of oil in the coming year.

The surplus on oil trading in January was another record at £210m. Exports were up by 17 per cent on the month, and imports were down by about the same amount. Though the imports figure is abnormally low the increased exports mark a continuing upward trend, and the trading surplus is expected to go on rising throughout the year.

The depressed state of British industry, which is now producing no more than it was in 1967, is the main cause of the remarkable plunge in import volumes last month. Imports began to fall away sharply in the first half of last year and the trend has been steadily downwards, though erratic from month to month.

But the size of last month's fall, with no special factors to explain it, must be considered freakish.

Though the volume of imports in January fell across the board (with the notable exception of cars), the most severe falls were in basic materials (by 26 per cent), fuels, food, drink and tobacco, and chemicals.

Over the past three months to January, however, imports of food, drink and tobacco were steady and chemicals were up on the previous three months, while imports of cars fell 17 per cent.

Capital and intermediate goods have suffered greater falls than consumer goods over the past few months.

The pattern of imports thus almost exactly mirrors the pattern of the present recession. Consumer spending has remained fairly steady in spite of rising unemployment as pay rises last year outstripped inflation. But heavy destocking by retailers and manufacturers, hit by high interest rates which make stocks expensive to finance, has led to rapidly falling production by domestic industry. The slump in manufacturing output last year was one of the steepest this century.

The surplus on invisible trade, such as financial services and tourism, is projected at £200m a month in the current quarter, £100m higher than in the previous quarter. This reflects the fact that a budget refund of about £600m is due to be repaid to the United Kingdom by the European Community, the bulk of it before the end of the financial year.

Retail sales up, page 17
Table, page 20

Explosion at stadium before visit by Pope

Karachi, Feb 16.—A man carrying explosives into a stadium where the Pope was to celebrate Mass was killed today when the device went off, senior Pakistani police officials said.

The explosion occurred about 20 minutes before the Pope, starting his first visit to Asia, was due to arrive at the stadium from Karachi airport.

A government statement later said three "suspicious characters" had tried to enter the stadium and were checked by security staff. "In the scuffle that followed a crude homemade device carried by one of the persons went off wounding three people, including a police officer on duty." The man carrying the device died instantly.

Mr Paul Rappaport, public affairs officer of the United States Consulate in Karachi, said the explosion caused some panic among the crowd of 70,000. "Officials tried to calm the crowd by saying it was a transformer or a piece of television equipment that had caused the explosion, but it was not," he said.

Later it learnt that if the programme of the religious ceremony had not been put back 15 minutes due to a delay in the arrival of the Pope's aircraft, the explosion could have caused many more injuries in the seats reserved for diplomats where the bomb had been placed. It took place about 40 yards from the altar and it was thought unlikely that the Pope would have been injured if he had been in the stadium.

The Pope, who urged greater dialogue between Muslims and Christians, celebrated Mass at the stadium and later left for the Philippines without being told of the incident.

Ambitious journey: The Pope's tour of the Far East is the most ambitious journey he has so far undertaken (Peter Nichols writes from Rome) He will cover about 20,500 miles with principal stops in the Philippines and Japan. The journey will last 12 days.

He will also stop briefly in Guam and Anchorage. He will stay five days in the Philippines and three and a half in Japan where he will visit both Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

Manila prepares, page 6
Leading article, page 13



Photograph by Brian Harris

Ministerial embrace: Lord Soames, the Governor who handed over Zimbabwe to independence, greets Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Finance, at the opening of his country's new High Commission at Zimbabwe House in the Strand yesterday. Dr Witness Mangwende, the Foreign Minister, opened the building that had stood empty as Rhodesia House during the 15 years of the colony's rebellion. Mr Eddison Zvobgo, the Patriotic Front spokesman at the Lancaster House conference and now Minister of Local Government and Housing, used the occasion to play down reports of fighting among former guerrilla forces that has left perhaps 250 dead in the past week. Dr Mangwende said the British press gave a distorted picture of life in Zimbabwe. "The situation is not as bad as it is painted" he said. "We have achieved what many Governments have failed to achieve in 20 years—peace." (Report, page 6.)

Zimbabwe guerrillas finally lay down arms after Nkomo plea

From Nicholas Ashford
Salisbury, Feb 16

The tension in Bulawayo was defused by Mr Joshua Nkomo today. He persuaded the Zipra men, who form the guerrilla wing of his Patriotic Front Party, to lay down their arms in Entumbane township.

Until this morning, the Zipra guerrillas had refused to move from their camp even though the rival Zanla forces had pulled out yesterday.

At about the same time that Mr Nkomo was ending the flareup of tribal violence, the Zimbabwean joint high command which represents the former Zipra and Zanla armies as well as the former Rhodesian security forces, met in Salisbury to consider the future of the new national army.

What the commanders and ultimately the government have to decide is whether to continue with the present sausagemachine approach devised by the British military mission, for fusing former Zanla and Zipra guerrillas into the new army.

At present equal numbers of Zanla and Zipra men are being brought together to form the integrated battalions. So far 12,000 men have been formed into 12 battalions. It is planned to establish three new battalions each month between now and August so that by the time the process is complete the new army will contain about 33,000 former guerrillas.

During last week's fighting the insurrection spread to three of these new battalions: Number 1/3 Battalion based at Glenville, to the west of Bulawayo, number 1/2 Battalion at Ntabazinduna to the east of Bulawayo, and the 4/1 Battalion at Connemara near the Midlands town of Que Que.

The battalion at Ntabazinduna was considered a showpiece of the new army.

Critics of the present integration proces argue that it has been too rushed and that political passions should be allowed to cool down before attempts are made to bring together the two rival groups. It is also argued that all the guerrillas should be disarmed before they join integrated units.

Against this is the view that the integration process survived last week's unrest remarkably well. Only three of the twelve new battalions were affected by the unrest, and three further battalions in the process of being formed — two of them within the vicinity of Bulawayo — were unaffected.

The final decision on the army's future will be taken by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister who is also Minister of Defence, and Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, his recently promoted security chief.

Mr Nkomo, who retained a defence advisory role after last month's Cabinet reshuffle is also likely to be included in the negotiations, particularly after the crucial role he played today in the embattled Entumbane township where, after speaking to Zipra leaders, he appealed to the guerrillas to leave in order to avoid endangering civilian life.

Social democracy a threat to Tories, Mrs Williams says

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

The emergence of the social democrats had put the Prime Minister in "dead trouble", Mrs Shirley Williams claimed last night, because "Mrs Thatcher was relying heavily on being able to present the Labour Party as an extremist and a Marxist party".

She went on: "She knows that if she cannot present her opponents in that way she is in dead trouble". Now she "has very little going for her" in the next election except North Sea oil and "it would be utterly irresponsible for her Government to use it for the purposes of buying its way back to an election victory".

Chatting in the newly opened offices in Queen Anne's Gate, London, of the Council for Social Democracy, which has been founded as the forerunner of a new party by herself and the rest of Labour's "gang of four"; Mrs Williams was obviously delighted to be under attack from Mrs Thatcher as well as the Labour leadership.

Questioned on the Prime Minister's implication in her speech last Saturday that the social democrats were a slower "poison" than Mr Wedgwood Benn's socialism, Mrs Williams:

"The politics of her government are better at manufacturing extremists than any other force in British politics today. Despair breeds extremism." With unemployment and bankruptcy all about, "her government, it seems to me, is creating extremists by the day".

Further, every social democratic government in Europe had "been more successful in employment, investment and inflation than her own. If social democracy were a slow poison I would say it was a good diet for most people."

Mrs Williams spoke in the twilight, waiting for the electricity to be connected. The council has taken the second-floor office suite of four rooms with the option of four more on a "cheap" six-month lease. The party headquarters, it seems, will be elsewhere.

The offices are the venue today of another photo call for the "gang of four" who launched the "Limehouse declaration".

Volunteers, up to ten a day, are at work opening the cascade of mail solicited by the recent advertisement in The Guardian. So far, Mrs Williams says, they have counted about £34,000 in donations. About £9,000 came in in small sums in about 12,000 letters to the "gang of four" as individuals.

But The Guardian advertisement had produced between £20,000 and £25,000. They still had one mail bag to open.

Most donations had been small but a few had been more than £1,000, although the idea that it was coming "from Europe" or "from the City" [...] Wrigglesworth, Labour MP for Teesside, Thornaby. He is expected to tell his constituency on Friday that he will not stand again as Labour candidate.

The centre in turmoil, page 2

Hunger men in dirty protest

From David Nicholson-Lord
Belfast

Six of the seven former hunger strikers at the Maze prison, near Belfast, have resumed their "dirty protest" after being moved from the prison hospital back to their cells, it was confirmed yesterday.

The men, who were moved on Friday, have been in hospital since the strike was called off shortly before Christmas. The seventh striker, Sean McKenna, who was close to death, remains there, after being moved back to the Maze from Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast, last month.

The Northern Ireland Office said the men were asked if they intended to conform with prison regulations, including the wearing of prison issue civilian clothing, and they refused. They were placed in unfurnished cells and immediately began fouling them.

The men's action is a further indication of a hardening of attitudes inside the H-Blocks at the Maze in the run-up to a second hunger strike.

ʀejection of 10% offer by water workers forecast as unofficial action begins

David Felton
bour Reporter

ears that unions in the ter and sewerage industry uld not be able to restrain ir members from taking official action proved correct sterday when about two ndred workers in the Northt started a work-to-rule in fiance of advice from their ion leaders.

The employers were preparto meet unofficial action er the rejection earlier this nth by union negotiators of "final" 10 per cent pay er. There were strong indiions last night that the offer ll be heavily defeated by the 000 workers in England and ales.

As the action spread throught to Durham and Northberland, with the prospect of more workers in the areas joining in this morning, delegates representing 2,000 workers in South Wales yesterday voted unanimously to reject the deal and called for a national strike.

South Wales is traditionally a militant area, and union officials were urging calm last night to prevent workers there following the example of their colleagues. But the employers and the Government were concerned at the vote by delegates representing the moderate 2,500 workers in the northern region, including Durham and Northumberland, which was unanimous in rejecting the offer and calling for a national strike.

Officials of the General and Municipal Workers Union (GMWU) which is dominant in the industry, were forecasting last night that the votes at other delegate conferences later this week would be influenced by the north-east action. The militant London region meets today. It is also expected to call for strike action.

The other main union in the industry, the National Union of Public Employees, is also consulting its water industry members. A vote of no confidence in union negotiators for not calling a national strike after rejecting the offer, has been tabled for Friday's meeting of the union's water committee in Wales.

Mr Rodney Bickerstaffe, Nupe national officer, said last night that there was a great feeling of frustration among the members.

Polish union ready for 90-day truce

land's free trade union movement licated that it was ready to accept neral Jaruzelski's call for a strike-free riod of 90 days. It urged in exchange a ntinuing dialogue and a genuine rtnership. Solidarity's official spokesan saw hope not just for a truce but for ng-term peace. But that did not mean say that there would be no strikes in land Page 6

Strike by Basques

e Basque region of Spain was hit by a neral strike in protest at the death of suspected ETA terrorist under interrogaon in Madrid. An investigating magistrate s beginning hearings on the case involvg five police officers in Madrid arrested ter an autopsy on the man Page 5

Rush for shares

The Government's floatation of 100 million shares in British Aerospace was three-and-a-half times oversubscribed. The shares, on offer at 150p each, represent a 50 per cent stake in the group. More than 155,000 separate applications were received, a high proportion from small investors Page 17

Niedermayer jail term

A man was jailed at Belfast Crown Court for 20 years for the manslaughter in 1973 of Mr Thomas Niedermayer, the West German consul in Northern Ireland. Mr Niedermayer, who was kidnapped by the IRA, was to have been offered in exchange for the London car bombers, the Price sisters Page 3

Reflation call by Tory

Reflation in certain sections of industry was urged by Mr Norman St John-Stevas. Pressing for action by the Prime Minister, he said he feared unemployment would get out of control and that it would be too late next year for reflation Page 2

More Labour peers

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is expected to announce the creation of a handful of Labour peers after a request from Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition. The request was made after pressure from senior Labour peers who felt there was a serious shortage of "working" Labour members on the front bench Page 2

Defence economies

Withdrawal of a divisional headquarters from West Germany is among possible economies being considered by the Army. Others include fewer bands, merging some small specialist corps, and rationalization of infantry administrative posts. Overspending could mean a cut of about £100m for each Service Page 4

Jerusalem: Setback for Israelis as court rules on electricity takeover 7

Peking: Chinese told to guard against anti-Maoist excesses 8

Classified advertisements: Appointments, page 22; Legal appointments, 6; Personal, 22, 24; Sale rooms and antiques, 22

HOME NEWS

Reflation demand to Prime Minister by Mr St John-Stevas

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

"A measure of reflation" was urgently pressed on Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday by Mr Norman St John-Stevas, until last month a member of the Cabinet.

"Unless we start a modest reflation in certain sections of industry now I believe unemployment will get totally out of control and it will be too late, I think, by next year to have the sort of reflation one needs", he said in an interview on ITN's *News at One*.

Reflation is a dirty word to the Prime Minister. Members of the Cabinet who otherwise urge adjustments in economic policy are careful never to use it. So Mr St John-Stevas's statement rates as one of the boldest challenges yet among high Tories to the Prime Minister to turn back.

Last Thursday Mrs Thatcher retorted at question time: "If we were to reflate on top of the present level of inflation it would lead to hyper inflation and unemployment. There is no doubt about that."

Mr St John-Stevas, who has kept a very low political profile since being removed from the Cabinet, marked his return to the argument with publication of a Bow Group lecture.

Although it was delivered at a fringe meeting of last October's Conservative conference its publication had been due in the week after the Cabinet reshuffle, but had been postponed "to allow the dust to settle", in the author's words.

The lecture entitled "The Moral Basis for Conservatism", challenged the Thatcherites' view that theirs was a new and true Conservatism. Mr St John-Stevas said yesterday in a new statement that the past month's events, from the emergence of the social dtmocratics to speeches by Lord Thorneycroft and Mr Francis Pym, his own successor in the Cabinet, had made his message "of immediate and pressing importance".

Not only was monetarism not enough, he said, "isolated from its political, social and moral context it is positively misleading and dangerous as an indication of party attitudes".

To move away from the central Tory tradition "and to identify Conservatism with a single technique for managing the economy would be highly dangerous if not fatal to the Government, especially in the present fluid political situation".

Mr St John-Stevas insisted that "the quite astonishing surge of support for a new centre party" evidenced in recent opinion polls could not be ignored. "The danger facing the Government of being branded extremist is a real one."

He noted that as a backbencher he would be "better able and freer" to counter the threat to the party.

The centre in turmoil, 2: Voters know what new party is against, but which policies will it back?

North-east MP's support for social democracy confuses electors

From Ronald Kershaw
Newcastle

The parliamentary constituency of Newcastle upon Tyne, is an elongated area, almost a corridor, running roughly in a south-easterly direction from the Gosforth district down to the banks of the Tyne at Walker.

A glance at voting patterns at the last general election shows that support for Mr Mike Thomas, the Labour MP, varies in direct proportion to the proximity of the voter to the river, and also, incidentally, to the density of housing in the constituency.

More colourfully, if one could flatten a rainbow, the physical and political spectra would coincide, starting with red in the heavily populated, heavily industrialized south-east of the constituency, and moving through the Liberal yellow in the estates of neat semi-detached houses in the middle of the corridor to the shades of blue in the semi-rural north-west.

The declaration of support for the new Council of Social Democracy by Mr Thomas, has confused moderate thinkers at the edges of the three principal parties.

After talking last week to supporters of all three candidates at the last election, one common fact emerged. Most people knew what the new social democratic cause was against but few had any idea what it supported.

In the strong Labour areas those who expressed a view of the aims of a social democratic party did so on the erroneous but long held precept that everything is black or white, there are no shades of grey and if a thing is not right it must be wrong. If you are not "for" you must be "against". That no doubt explains the modest Liberal following in the constituency.

The second interesting feature of Mr Thomas's declaration was the conflict created in the minds of dedicated Labour supporters who were clearly torn between supporting Mr Thomas should he stand as a social democratic candidate, because he has been a good constituency MP, and supporting the official Labour candidate.

It became clear that if a social democratic party were to come into being an early priority would have to be a programme of educating the electorate in its basic tenets. It is clearly not enough simply to say that the Labour Party has moved away from social democracy, in which it was rooted, and that the aim is to arrest and reverse Britain's economic decline.


Mr Mike Thomas, MP: Attracts varied support.

Mr Joseph Flood, an unemployed shipyard worker, was bicycling home to Fairhaven Avenue, Walker, after a fruitless visit to the local job centre.

He said: "As far as I can see Labour have only one man to worry about here and that is Mike Thomas. I have been out of work only three weeks and it is terrible but I cannot get a job. I am really interested in anybody who can get me job security and promise some sort of a decent future for my two kids."

Mr William Nichols, a retired railway worker, whose home at Waverdale Avenue looks out on the cranes of Tyneside, was firmer in his views. "I voted Labour last time and I do not know who I shall vote for next time but I can tell you any sort of centre party is a waste of time and money here".

Complete lack of regard for politicians was not uncommon in east Newcastle. A typical answer I came across time after time from people who always refused to put their name to their comments was: "There is nothing to choose between them. They are all out for themselves. They are all rubbish. I did not vote last time and I shall not vote next time."

Mr Alan Knox, from the middle of the constituency, voted Labour at the last election and while not committing himself for the future considered that the Labour Party had "taken away all democracy".

He said: "Mike Thomas has represented us fairly well in Parliament and he has spent thousands of pounds of his own money sending out letters telling us what he is doing and why.

"The Labour Party has gone too far left for me and I think some sort of pact getween the Liberals and the Social Democrats might do the country some good."

Mr Sidney Crozier, who lives in the more residential part of the constituency, was shy of declaring his allegiance "because of the neighbours".

"I think there will be some sort of partnership with the Liberals and I would certainly think about voting for it. Everybody likes Shirley Williams but I wish she would say where they are going. There is a need for a new approach in British politics.

Again, Mr Robert Rae, of Walkergate, asked: "Who are these democrats? I have never heard of them. I have no time for mealy-mouthed idealists.

"I do not believe in communism. We want to get out of the Common Market, stop immigration and look after the youngest and the oldest in the country. We need another Cromwell."

Across the country at Consett, co Durham, where last year 4,000 men lost their jobs with the closure of the steel works, one found a town of bitterly disillusioned men, their faith in politicians of both main parties destroyed by their misfortune.

Most people I spoke to in Consett had clearly reached a state where they simply did not know what to think about the political scene. Time after time I was told: "The last lot did us no good and this lot are worse".

I formed the impression that here was a constituency that could become a killing ground for a party with new ideas who could offer at least hope for the future. Mr Peter Lockeron said: "People put David Watkins [the Labour MP] in with a substantial majority last time [15,867] but I reckon if the social democrats put up here a lot of people would vote for them.

Mr Thomas Oxley, of Moorside, Consett, an unemployed former steel worker, felt a lot of people would "try out" social democrats. "Labour did not do much for us and these others have done nothing", he said. "I do not think they care *for Liberals here*."

Action call by firemen on pay offer

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The Fire Brigades Union is to seek an urgent meeting with Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, in an attempt to avert what last night became a clear threat of strike action if the local authorities stand by their decision to withdraw from the 1977 pay agreement.

Mr Kenneth Cameron, general secretary of the union, said that unless the decision was changed "there is going to be industrial action in the fire service".

At talks yesterday the union pressed employers' representatives on the Fire Service National Joint Council to reconsider the decision overnight. A full meeting of the

Although the present agreement does not expire until November, the firemen are the first group to negotiate in the annual public service pay round.

The employers also made clear at yesterday's meeting that they were determined to negotiate efficiency measures, including a reduction of night fire station manning in favour of daytime cover, partly as the price for the deal reached in December, which yielded a two-stage 18.8 per cent increase.

Mr Martin Brannan, chairman of the employers' side, said last night that he had believed it right to meet the formula for this year but that it had cost the employers dear.

Foot request for peers to be granted

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

The creation of a handful of Labour peers is expected to be announced by Mrs Margaret Thatcher before Easter in reply to a request from Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition.

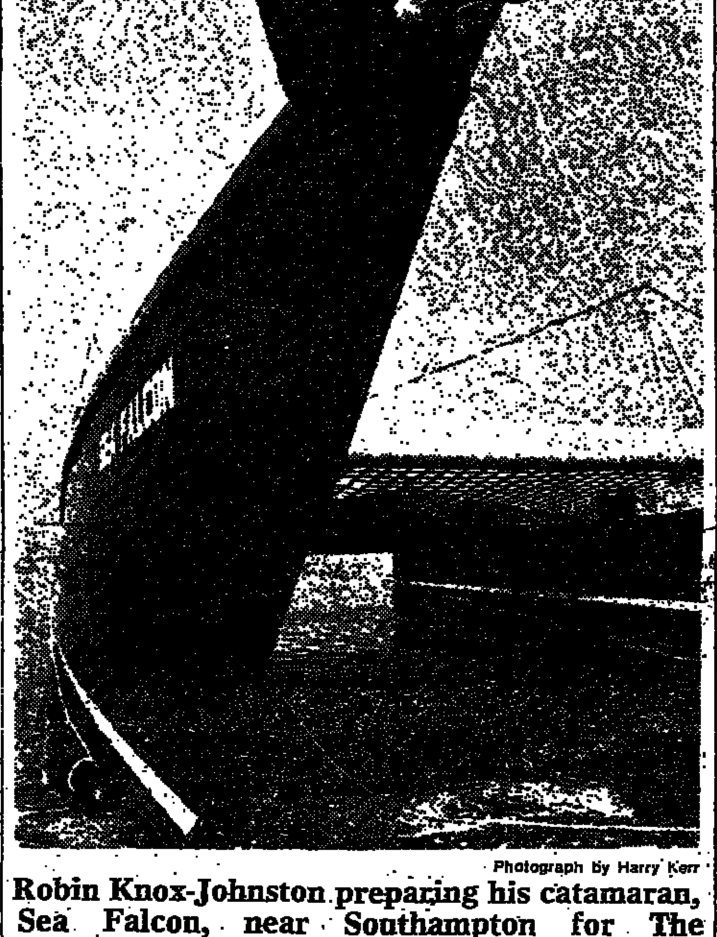
Mr Foot, whose views on the House of Lords are well known —he suggested at the weekend that it was "merely a branch office of the Conservative Central Office"—made the request after pressure from senior Labour peers.

Lord Peart, the party leader in the Lords, and Lady Llewelyn-Davies of Hastoe, opposition chief whip, told Mr Foot shortly after he became serious shortage of "working" Labour peers to speak for the Opposition on the front bench.

Mr Foot met the Prime Minister before Christmas and she is understood to have agreed in principle. However, the Labour leader was still waiting to hear last night how many peers she has in mind.

The Prime Minister has made clear that she will be announcing a list of opposition peers which will include parties other than Labour.

Mr Foot's request is likely to cause a controversy with Labour's left wing, particularly as the party is committed to the abolition of the Lords.


Photograph by Harry Kerr

Robin Knox-Johnston preparing his catamaran, Sea Falcon, near Southampton for The Observer/Europe 1 transatlantic race in June.

Union chiefs protest on Talbot blow

By Edward Townsend

Mr Roy Grantham, general secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, yesterday resigned as a government-appointed director of Talbot UK in protest at the "deluge of disasters" he alleged had been created by the Government's economic policies.

Last week Talbot's parent, the French PSA Peugeot group, decided to close its loss-making car plant at Linwood, near Glasgow, with the loss of nearly 5,000 jobs.

Mr Grantham, appointed to the board of Talbot, then Chrysler UK, after the 1976 rescue by the former Labour government, said that state-appointed directors should represent the national interest, and he could no longer serve "because the policies of the Government do not serve the national interest in their impact on manufacturing industry".

Commons move: Opposition spokesman last night tabled a Commons motion for debate *tomorrow deploring the Government's failure to act to prevent the closure* (Our Political Staff writes).

The motion expressed "grave anxiety at this latest example of the devastation which Government policies are imposing on manufacturing industry throughout the whole country".

Loan discussions: Ministers are to discuss with Peugeot the £28m loan made by the Government in 1976 to Chrysler UK (John Huxley writes).

It is due to be repaid over five years from the end of 1985. Under the agreement the Government can require repayment in the event of any substantial change to the business.

Moderates angry over speed of mine closure

From Richard Ford
Newdigate Colliery,
Warwickshire

As the men on the day shift at the doomed Newdigate colliery, in Warwickshire, streamed towards the pit baths yesterday the miners' union branch secretary reflected on the sad news he was about to break them.

It was no longer rumour; *the National Coal Board* had announced that the 83-year-old pit is to close by the end of June with the loss of 150 jobs.

"If you see me strung up later in the afternoon you will know how angry the men are. I do not know how they will react to the suddenness of the closure", Mr Thomas Mountford, the secretary, said.

The board hopes that the other 600 men at the pit, near Bedworth, will be found jobs at other mines in Warwickshire. They expect that by offering early retirement to men aged 55 or more at Newdigate and other Warwickshire collieries, redundancies will be kept to those over 55.

For many of the men the confirmation that the pit is to close came as no surprise, as they were resigned to a slow rundown over the years. But the speed with which the board wants finally to end mining at the colliery shocked and angered many.

Mr Ralph Rawlinson, director of the board's South Midlands area, blamed the industry's severe financial difficulties for the need to bring forward the Newdigate closure. Substantial losses would have occurred if *the sparse reserves* had been worked for a few more years.

At the pithead baths, as news of the closure spread, the reaction of most men was in line with their reputation for moderation.

Mr John Bennett, aged 54, a face worker, said most miners at the pit were taking a realistic attitude about what was happening. "The speed with which they want to stop working is going to cause not only anxiety here but in pits near by where some of our men are expecting to be transferred."

However, despite reservations, most of the miners expected that a national strike ballot would result in an overwhelming vote for an all-out stoppage, *and that they would* be loyal to their union leaders.

Fight for survival, Welsh pitmen's leader says

From Tim Jones
Bridgend

South Wales miners yesterday threw down a gauntlet to the Prime Minister when they spearheaded the National Union of Mineworkers' confrontation with the Government over pit closures.

From dawn today all 34 pits in the area will be at a standstill as the 25,000 miners begin what they call a "fight to the *end*" *to preserve their jobs* and the industry from "economic lunacy".

The decision was taken at a special delegate conference at Bridgend which had been brought forward by 48 hours because miners in five pits which are to close had started unofficial industrial action.

Mr Emlyn Williams, president of the South Wales miners, said: "We decided we could not wait for the meeting of the national executive in London on Thursday because the men are so angry".

Mr Williams said the first task would be to halt the movement of all coal in South Wales, including stockpiles at power *stations*.

He would expect the cooperation of the General and Municipal Workers' Union and the Transport and General Workers' Union. "Railwaymen have told us they will not move a single ton of coal."

Free cruise critics answered

From Stephen Cohen
of *The Times Educational Supplement*
on board the SS Uganda

Education officials and Berkshire County Council officials who have been criticized for taking free places on a two week Mediterranean cruise replied to the attacks yesterday.

The chairman of the county *education committee*, education department officials and some wives have joined nearly a thousand children on an educational cruise to the Greek islands, Turkey, Egypt and Sicily. They took free places offered by P & O, operators of the Uganda.

Mr Peter Edwards, director of education, said the party was on board to find out if parents were getting value for money and whether there was real educational value in Mediterranean cruises.

"P & O said they wanted to bring an administrative team to help them to run the cruise. They offered 14 complimentary places."

The places had been taken up by two clergymen, who ministered *to the whole ship*; Mr Gerald Hughes, chairman of the Berkshire Education Committee and his wife; the county's director of education and his wife; Mr Robin Howles, assistant education officer; a professional assistant and his wife; an accountant and his wife; an adviser and his wife and a music adviser.

Mr Hughes and the education officials have been criticized by Berkshire teachers, who say that the free places should have gone to poor or deprived children.

Merchant navy offer rejected

Leaders of Britain's merchant navy officers yesterday rejected a 12 per cent pay offer from the General Council of British Shipping. Executives of the Merchant Navy Officers' Association will meet later this month to decide further action.

Mr Murdoch wants better 'Times'

By John Roper

Mr Rupert Murdoch, the new proporietor of Times Newspapers, said on the BBC *Panorama* television programme last night that he certainly would not change *The Sunday Times*, but would like to expand it.

Changes in *The Times* would depend on the new editor, but he would like to see it get better, with perhaps greater appeal to youngre readers.

He was interviewed by David Dimbleby after a film that showed highlights of his acquisition of newspapers and television stations in Australia, America and Britain and included criticisms made by some former editors of his publications.

The programme, entitled "Who's Afraid of Rupert Murdoch?", suggested that Mr Murdoch's personal involvement with his newspapers sometimes led to interference that was resented by the staff.

He agreed with Mr Dimbleby that it would be difficult not to become involved in *The Times*. He insisted on excellence and he had a right to do so, he said.

He expected the editor to make a success of the paper. If *The Times* was in danger of folding he would have to step in.

By the redundancies agreed and other savings losses would be halved and the company would then have to "get out and get more revenue".

"We shall work pretty hard", he said and indicated that the price of the paper would have to go up.

The new editor had not yet been chosen. Mr Murdoch would be concerned that he believed in democracy and personal freedoms and was a man of decent principles and character.

He hoped that *The Times* would focus on the great issues of the day and stimulate people to think about those great issues.

Assurance on supplements: The House of Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and Arts is to monitor the development of *The Times* supplements over the next few years because of concern about their future status and quality (Jacob Ecclestone writes).

The committee heard evidence last week from Mr Murdoch.

Thanking him for his reaffirmation of the assurances given to the Secretary of State for Trade on the three supplements, the committee, in its report published yesterday, says: "We are confident that to have these on record in a report from a select committee will give them an added status and force".

The report says the committee was grateful that Mr Murdoch had given his assurance that in assessing the viability of the supplements he woul d" take them together and not in isolation". The committee noted that Mr Murdoch's assurance also extended to *The Times Educational Supplement (Scotland)*.

Mr Murdoch told the committee that any deterioration in the quality or authority of the supplements would be detrimental to The Times.

Minister publishes material in monopolies decision

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, told the Commons yesterday that in view of the controversial nature of the issue, he was publishing the material on which he reached his decision to consent to the transfer of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to Mr Rupert Murdoch without a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

With many of the MPs who previously supported a reference apparently resigned to the takeover, Mr John Smith, opposition spokesman on trade, pressed Mr Biffen to make clear what sanctions were available to ensure that the *new proprietor observed th* guarantees on editorial independence and integrity.

The Secretary of State replied that two of the conditions required changes in the articles of association of the companies concerned, to safeguard the position of the independent national directors and to preserve editorial independence.

From the Tory backbenches Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thanet, East) said that whatever the past disagreements and since the House was dealing with a fait accompli, Mr Murdoch and the new management of Times Newspapers should be wished good luck "because they are certainly going to need it".

"I think that was underhand bowling up to the best Australian standards", Mr Biffen replied. "I realize that the decision I took was controversial and by its nature it could not have been otherwise."

He was reinforced by the observations of the deputy editor of *The Times* when he said the guarantees were stronger than ever before and that he did not think any other newspaper in the world had such guarantees.

Parliamentary report, page 9

Information about papers' viability under TBH largely hypothetical

By Dan van der Vat

If the document on which Mr Biffen reached his decision on the sale of Times Newspapers makes only one thing clear, it is that the information on the present and possible future financial position of the company under the ownership of Thomson British Holdings (TBH) had it continued was in the main hypothetical.

That is largely because of the huge losses and attendant accounting chaos caused by the closure of the five titles for 50 weeks in 1978-9.

In answer to a parliamentary question from Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch and Lymington, Mr Biffen said yesterday that in view of representations to him and the interest shown in the takeover, he would place the document in the House of Commons library.

The document draws its figures from what the Department of Trade learnt from the information memorandum prepared for bidders by S. G. Warburg, the bankers who handled the sale, supplemented by further information from Warburg and TBH.

"Results for December 1, 1978, to December 31, 1979, were not included, as they contain the results of the shutdown period and the costs of restarting"; Mr Biffen's paper says.

Figures appended to it show *The Times* losing a steady £3m a year from 1975 to 1978, £13m in 1980, £12m in 1981, £9m in 1982 and £8m in 1983. But "little reliance was placed on forecasts for 1982 and 1983", the paper remarks.

The Sunday Times is shown as having lost £2m in 1975 and £1m in 1976. Profits of £1m a year are shown for 1977 and 1978, a loss of £2m for 1980, break-even in 1981 and profits of £5m a year in 1982 and 1983. Those figures for both papers include a theoretical allocation of shares in fixed overheads and interest on capital.

Those who pressed for a reference to the monopolies commission, including MPs and most journalists on *The Sunday Times*, argued that the profitability of the Sunday paper must have been underestimated if Mr Biffen had concluded that it was not viable.

"The Fair Trading Act, 1973, subjects newspaper mergers to special scrutiny", Mr Biffen's paper says. "Transfer . . . to a proprietor whose newspapers (including the one involved in the transfer) have an average daily circulation of 500,000 or more copies cannot take place without the consent of the Secretary of State.

"Such consent cannot normally be granted without a prior reference of the proposed acquisition to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission." Exceptions included cases where the newspaper concerned "is not economic as a going concern and as a separate newspaper, and where (the Secretary of State) is further satisfied that, if the newspaper is to continue as a separate newspaper, the case is one of urgency."

The paper goes on to say: "Although the consent sought was to a transfer to another newspaper proprietor, the satisfaction to which the Secretary of State's consideration was directed related to the position under the present ownership rather than to what it might be under new management."

It was difficult to assess the viability of a newspaper when it shared production costs with other titles. "Two approaches were possible. The first was that existing costs should be allocated on a fair and reasonable basis without considering the effect of operational separation.

"The second was that a hypothetical construction should be made of the ongoing costs which a newspaper might bear if the facilities it used were not shared by the other publications.

"The question was approached in detail on the first basis, and the position for *The Sunday Times* was also considered on the second basis, under which the newspaper appeared less economic." No account was taken of possible savings by a new owner, notably on manning levels, which Thomsons had been unable to achieve, the paper says.

The only information relating to 1980 available to the department was unaudited results for the first nine months of last year with an estimate for the last three. Those suggested a loss of £200,000 incurred by *The Sunday Times*, later adjusted to £300,000.

"Having considered the foregoing information, on the basis described in this memorandum, the Secretary of State concluded that neither *The Times* nor *The Sunday Times* was economic as a going concern and as a separate newspaper.

"Having further satisfied himself that the case was one of urgency, he concluded that he had discretion to grant consent to the transfer of both newspapers without a reference to the commission. On January 27 he granted his consent to the transfers without a reference but subject to a number of conditions, details of which have been laid in the library of the House", the paper concludes.

Thomson British Holdings announced on October 22 last that it would close the five Times Newspapers titles by the middle of March, 1981, unless they were bought by a new owner. A reference to the monopolies commission requires a *minimum of eight weeks' investigation*.

Mr Murdoch emerged as a bidder on January 22, seven weeks before the Thomson deadline, the rigidity of which dominated the entire process of sale and led Mr Biffen to waive a reference.

Weather forecast and recordings

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded (Symbols are on advancing edge)


NOON TODAY

Today

Sun rises: 7.11 am Sun sets: 5.19 pm
Moon sets: 6.30 am Moon rises: 3.45 pm

Full Moon: Tomorrow.

Lighting up: 5.49 pm to 6.39 am. High water: London Bridge, 12.29 am, 6.7m; 12.59 pm, 6.8m. Avonmouth, 6.12 am, 12.4m; 6.41 pm, 12.6m. Dover, 10.07 am, 6.1m; 10.28 pm, 6.3m. Hull, 5.16 am, 6.9m; 5.33 pm, 7.1m. Liverpool, 10.17 am, 8.8m; 10.40 pm, 8.8m. 1ft = 0.3048m. 1m = 3.2808ft.

A ridge of high pressure will persist over S Britain; a frontal trough will approach NW areas later.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, E, NE England, East Anglia: Cloudy at times, some mist or fog early, perhaps isolated light showers; wind E to SE, light to moderate; max temp 4° to 6°C (39° to 43°F).

Central S, Central N England, Midlands: Rather cloudy at first with some mist or fog, sunny periods developing; wind S to SE, light to moderate; max temp 5° or 6°C (41° to 43°F).

Channel Islands: Dry, sunny periods, Wind E, light to moderate; max temp 5° or 6°C (41° to 43°F).

SW, NW England, Wales: Fog patches slowly thinning, sunny periods; wind S to SW, light, increasing to moderate; max temp 6° to 7°C (43° to 45°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, *Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee*, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Moray Firth: Fog patches clearing, sunny periods. Wind S to SW, fresh, increasing to strong; max temp 6° or 7°C (43° to 45°F).

Glasgow, Central Highlands, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland, N Ireland: Cloud increasing, with outbreaks of rain later; wind SW, strong, increasing to gale; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Mostly dry, some rain in NW and perhaps wintry showers in SE; rather cold generally, with night frost.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SE, light or moderate; sea slight.

St George's Channel: Wind S, light, increasing to moderate, fresh; sea smooth, becoming moderate.

Irish Sea: Wind S, moderate, increasing to fresh or strong locally, gale later. Sea slight, becoming rough.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	11	52	Chicago	s	3	37	Lisbon	s	13	55	Nice	f	11	52
Algiers	c	18	64	Cologne	s	2	36	Locarno	c	4	39	Oslo	f	-3	27
Amstrdm	c	2	36	Copnhgn	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	London	s	6	43	Paris	s	2	36
Athens	s	8	46	Dublin	s	8	46	Luxmbrg	s	0	32	Reykjavik	c	2	36
Barcelona	f	15	58	Edinburgh	s	5	41	Madrid	s	6	43	Rome	c	10	50
Beirut	c	13	55	Florence	s	9	48	Majorca	c	11	52	Ronldswy	s	6	43
Bermuda	s	18	64	Geneva	r	1	34	Malaga	c	14	57	Stockholm	c	2	36
Belfast	s	6	43	Gibraltar	s	16	61	Malta	f	12	54	Tel Aviv	c	14	57
Berlin	c	3	37	Guernsey	f	5	41	Manchstr	s	7	45	Toronto	r	[illegible]	[illegible]
Biarritz	f	10	50	Helsinki	s	-7	19	Montreal	c	[illegible]	[illegible]	Vancouver	f	[illegible]	[illegible]
Birmingham	c	4	39	Innsbruck	s	1	34	Moscow	s	-5	23	Venice	s	5	41
Bristol	f	6	43	Istanbul	sn	0	32	Munich	s	1	34	Vienna	c	2	36
Brussels	s	0	33	Jersey	s	5	41	Naples	s	9	48	Warsaw	r	10	50
Budapest	s	4	39	L Palmas	s	17	66	New York	s	9	48	Zurich	c	1	34
Cardiff	f	6	41												

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8°C (46°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 1°C (34°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 78 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 4. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,028.6 millibars, rising. 1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Overseas selling prices

Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canary Pts 100; Cyprus 450 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; IR 135; Iraq ID 0.500; Irish Rep 20p; Italy L 1100; Jordan LD 0.; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon L; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rs 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR; Singapore S4.5; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 5.50; Tunisia Din .450; US; Canada $1.30; UAE Dir; Yugoslavia Din 40.

HOME NEWS

20 years' jail for killer of German diplomat

Mr Thomas Niedermayer, the kidnapped German diplomat, died after he tried to escape *during a bungled IRA attempt* to free the London car bombers, Dolores and Marian Price, the prosecution said at Belfast Crown Court yesterday.

Lord Justice Jones was told that the Provisionals wanted to swop Mr Niedermayer, aged 45, the West German consul *in* Northern Ireland, for the jailed sisters.

John Christopher Bradley, *aged 42, of Norglen Crescent,* Belfast, one of the captors, was jailed for 20 years for the manslaughter of Mr Niedermayer.

Eugene Anthony McManus, aged 51, of Rockville Street, Belfast, was jailed for five years. He admitted membership of the IRA and assisting those involved in the kidnapping and death of Mr Niedermayer.

Mr Niedermayer, who disappeared in December, 1973, died while being held captive after attempting to make a dash for freedom from the house in Belfast where he was held, it was stated.

His body, bound hand and foot, was found *nearly* seven years later in a *shallow* grave about a mile from his home.

Mr John Creaney, QC, for the *Crown, said Mr Bradley, who* admitted manslaughter but pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder, which the judge *accepted, told the police in a* statement that members of the kidnap gang said prayers over the spot where Mr Neidermayer *was buried,* and that the whole affair had been an embarrassment to the IRA.

Mr Bradley had allegedly told the police that after Mr Niedermayer tried to escape he started to scream and was held down. He was hit on the head with a pistol.

"We held him for I do not know how long", Mr Bradley *had said. "He was still struggling* but then went limp. Someone said, 'The man is dead.'"

As well as being jailed for 20 years for manslaughter, Mr Bradley, married with four children, was given concurrent sentences ranging from five to 15 years on six further charges relating to assaulting and imprisoning Mr Niedermayer, having guns and nail bombs, and belonging to the IRA.

The judge told Mr Bradley, a *former member of the RAF:* "You have recognized the court, but you should not get a gold medal for that. This was a disgraceful act. You are nothing but a common criminal, and will be dealt with as such."

Turning to Mr McManus, Lord Justice Jones said: "You have pleaded guilty to membership of the IRA, which is at the root of many of the troubles in this province".

Earlier Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, for the defence of Mr Bradley, *said: "He was not part of* the original kidnapping.

"He *never* intended to kill or cause any harm to Mr Niedermayer. *His role was to guard* him."

Mr Tom Cahill, QC, for the defence of Mr McManus, said *his client had not known about* the kidnapping or how Mr Niedermayer met his death.

Whitehall brief: University 'think tank' specializes in policy analysis

Getting to grips with a chewed-up economy

By Peter Hennessy

One of the most unfortunate rigidities in British society is *the divide that yawns between* the universities and the Whitehall branches of the thinking classes. By comparison, Wash*ington veritably bursts* with policy institutes that provide men of ideas for new administrations.

Professor Richard Rose, of Strathclyde University, is an American who has spent the bulk of his working life in *Britain producing a prodigious* output of scholarship on our politics and is well placed to ponder the relationship between *Whitehall* and universities.

In an article in the *International Social Science Journal,* Professor Rose has captured the institutional and career pressures that keep the two professions apart: "Power and influence, rather than knowledge and ideas, are the tokens of success at the highest levels of government. A public official views knowledge or information as a means to an end, whereas a social scientist views it as an end in itself."

Strathclyde, like Nuffield College, Oxford, is among those bodies that have striven energetically to trigger intellectual exchanges between scholars and bureaucrats. Crucial to its efforts since 1976 has been its Clydeside "think tank", *the* Centre for the Study of Public Policy, funded by grants received from government sources and *foundations in six nations.*

Professor Rose: "Wrong to blame individuals."

The centre's raison d'être is the practice of policy analysis, pinning down the factors that cause the efforts of government to fall apart. Professor Rose cites the example of the economy, the area of the country's most persistent policy failure since 1945.

"It is dead wrong to blame individuals, either ministers or civil servants. It is not the quality of the people. It cannot be. Look at the Treasury, the best and the brightest. Look at the economy. It is something *in between, chewing it up."*

Strathclyde has tried to focus on that "something in between" with a flood of *studies in social policy on subjects* ranging from Northern Ireland and the implementation of language policy in Welsh *schools to regional and industrial* economic policy and the general theme of overload in government. They appear at the rate of 24 a year

As an American, he is cautious about Washington-Whitehall analogies, the kind of thinking *that suggests that if* only London had a Brookings Institution a thousand policy flowers would bloom. British *soil, he insists, is different.*

The country is the victim or past success when nobody in politically or bureaucratically powerful circles felt the need of assistance from thinkers outside Whitehall because things were going very nicely. The setbacks of the 1970s have changed all that and even the Official Secrets Acts, Professor Rose says, cannot disguise "the condition of England". A *policy analyst can also do a lot* with the data that government publishes every year, he adds.

Mr Kevin Allen, codirector of the Strathclyde centre, an economist specializing in regional policy, is convinced that universities are perfectly placed to carry out research for government, as he and his team are doing for the Department of Industry and its German, French and Italian equivalents. They have the people, the libraries and the contacts.

Professor Rose adds two *warnings. First,* people *in* universities are not elected to govern the country; taking decisions is the responsibility of those who are. *Second,* "policy analysis is about diagnosing problems and identifying options. I am in the understanding business, not the solutions business."

Labour holds back paper on rights of homosexuals

By Lucy Hodges

A policy document on the rights of homosexuals which was approved by the national executive committee of the Labour Party has been put aside, allegedly for financial reasons.

However, there are worries that the document is being suppressed because the Labour Party bureaucracy in Walworth Road, south London, does not like its tenor.

The confidential document, entitled *The Rights of Gay Men and Women,* says that homosexuals face discrimination in virtually every aspect of their lives, particularly employment. Legislation to protect them is long overdue, it says.

The paper, which calls on the Labour movement to speak out on the issue, originated with the party's home policy committee, of which Mr Wedgwood Benn, MP for Bristol, South-east, is chairman.

Mr Benn wrote the foreword to a pamphlet published by the National Council for Civil Liberties last month called *Gay Workers: Trade Unions and the Law.* He said on its publication that the NEC policy document would be put into into practice when the party was *next in office.*

Victims of attacks: About forty homosexuals were killed or disabled in attacks during the past *three years, a report by* the Campaign for Homosexual Equality said yesterday (the Press Association reports).

It said there were more than 260 incidents

Singer must pay £10,000 for slandering publisher

Miss Dorothy Squires, the singer, must pay £10,000 damages for slandering Mr Robin McGibbon, the book publisher, a High Court jury decided yesterday.

Mr McGibbon had complained that on four occasions Miss Squires told business associates that he had spent two years in jail.

The jury took 45 minutes to find against Miss Squires, aged 57, and award the damages. Mr Justice Caulfield ordered her to pay the costs of the case.

Last month she lost a libel action against Mr McGibbon, founder of Everest Books.

Both actions arose from a dispute over the proposed publication of Miss Squires's autobiography, *Rain, Rain Go Away,* which was written in 1975 but has not been published because of a clash over the contract.

That dispute is also due to be heard *in the High Court.*

It is estimated that Miss Squires, the former wife of Mr Roger Moore, the actor, will face a bill of £12,000 for costs in the two actions.

Mr *Justice Caulfield* yesterday granted Mr McGibbon an injunction to prevent Miss Squires *repeating her allegations against him.*

Putting the Welsh into 'order'

From a Correspondent
Caernarfon

Parliamentary history was *made yesterday in the* Welsh-speaking heartland when for the first time evidence was given to a select committee in Welsh.

The Commons Select Committee on Welsh Affairs met at the headquarters of Gwynedd County Council at Caernarfon, whose simultaneous translation system was used.

Mr Leo Abse, Labour MP *for Pontypool, the chairman,* opened the proceedings with the word "Tawelwch" (Order).

He said it was the first time in history that an adjunct to Parliament was open to anyone who wished to speak in Welsh.

"You will have to forgive us that, alas, many of us do not know the language", he added. "I hope the day will come when it will be spoken not by the minority but by the majority of the people in Wales."

The committee, which will continue to hear *evidence* today, is discussing broadcasting in Welsh.

Representatives of Dwyfor *district council, which covers* the Lleyn Peninsula, where 78 per cent of the population is Welsh-speaking, gave evidence *first and welcomed the allocation* of a Welsh language television channel.

Staff unions' overtime ban at BL gets poor backing

From Clifford Webb
Birmingham

The start of a campaign to ban and impose work sanctions, *called by BL staff unions* opposing compulsory redundancies, got a poor response yesterday from the group's *22,000 white-collar workers.*

Most of the 34 car plants deported no action of any kind. At those plants where the men voted to support the campaign, they did not seem to have their hearts in the dispute and were merely going through the motions.

The first 200 notices of compulsory redundancy went out yesterday. Although the management had said it would bring forward all the 900 compulsory redundancies being sought if the unions went ahead with their campaign, it appears that the lack of militancy has led to a change of heart.

Volunteers are still coming *forward and it seems likely* that fewer compulsory cuts will have to be made before the March 31 deadline set by BL to achieve 4,250 staff redundancies. More than 3,400 have volunteered to leave.

The danger is that a confrontation with an individual employee could bring about a withdrawal of labour in a key plant such as Longbridge, where the Metro is produced.

Lords ruling deferred in tax amnesty case

The House of Lords reserved judgment yesterday on the question whether small businessmen, angered by a tax amnesty granted to Fleet Street's 6,000 casual print workers, can sue the Inland Revenue.

A year ago the Court of Appeal *ruled* that the 50,000-strong National Federation of Self Employed and Small Businesses was entitled to sue the *revenue.* In the present appeal, in what has become known as the "Micky Mouse" tax case, the revenue seeks to reverse that *ruling.*

The federation has sought a declaration that the revenue acted unlawfully in declaring an *amnesty up* to April, 1977.

Some printing workers were said to have been defrauding the taxman by signing for pay packets with fictitious names such as "Mr M. Mouse".

Children picket office in creche protest

Sir Denis Forman, chairman of Granada Television, arrived *at work yesterday to find* his office surrounded by a picket of the children of executives *striking over the withdrawal of creche facilities.*

The toddlers' parents, protesting at Granada's offices in Soho, London, were among 70 producers, directors and researchers taking part in a one-day strike, which delayed programmes, including *World in Action* and *University Challenge.*

Mr Alan Sapper, general secretary of the Association of Cinematograph, *Television* and Allied Technicians, told the strikers that Granada workers in Manchester held a lunchtime demonstration in support.

Granada blamed lack of demand for the decision to pull out of the creche it shared with other television companies and the TUC.

Buses return to Guernsey

From Our Correspondent
St Peter Port

Buses were run in Guernsey yesterday for the first time *since November 19,* when the former bus company closed because of heavy losses.

Guernseybus, a subsidiary of Trafalgar Leisure *Investments,* has started with six scheduled routes and is to introduce another five from next Monday.

The new company has taken over the existing fleet of buses, most of *them decorated* as before. Many of the drivers are back at the wheel, although the staff has been reduced, and the same offices and garages are being used.

Guernsey has a population of 54,000 and 31,700 motor vehicles, including nearly 24,000 private cars. It is predicted that by the end of the century there could be 50,000 vehicles.

Withdrawal of divisional HQ from West Germany is among economies considered by the Army

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The withdrawal of a divisional headquarters from West Germany is among the options being considered by the Army as part of a package of defence economies that might have to be implemented this year.

Others include a reduction in the number of bands, mergers among some of the small, specialist corps and a rationalization of administrative posts in the infantry organization in Britain.

The General Staff has ordered a review of all possible savings in case the Treasury insists that overspending by the Ministry of Defence during 1980-81 should be paid for out of the 1981-82 budget.

The amount of the overspending will not be known for several months, but is likely to be between £260m and £400m, which could mean in effect a cut of about £100m for each of the three main Services.

The Army, which refuses to accept that it escaped more lightly than the Royal Navy and the RAF in the recent £200m defence cuts, believes that some economies will be necessary anyway because of rising pressures on money and manpower.

Those economies are being accelerated, partly by the complexity of new equipment which imposes a need for more maintenance and support and partly by the fact that the £200m cut had lowered the baseline for future budgetary calculations.

The Army, which is now 3,000 men short, has had to cut back on recruiting because of inadequate funds. A target of 14,500 adult males for 1980-81 was raised to 16,000 because of the numbers coming forward as a result of the recession.

That was pruned to 13,000 when it was found that the ministry could not afford to fund the extra training costs and salaries. Recruiting targets for junior soldiers have had to be reduced from 11,000 to 10,000 and for women from 1,200 to 1,100.

The retention rate for the second half of 1980 was 11 per cent higher than for the preceding six months. But the General Staff had hoped to gather as many as possible now as an insurance against lean recruiting years in the mid-1980s.

The need for manpower economies is felt most acutely in the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) where most new equipment like helicopters, missiles and armoured vehicles is stationed. Manpower in BAOR is slightly above the establishment figure of 55,000 and is in danger of rising much higher unless the Army starts to make savings.

The Army is reluctant to economize on front-line regiments—or on the logistic units. So most of the options being looked at involve reducing the number of administrative jobs.

The withdrawal of one of the four 900-strong divisional headquarters from BAOR would mean parcelling out its peacetime duties among the remaining three divisions. Meanwhile the headquarters staff might be given additional jobs in Britain, but would remain together so that they could return to BAOR for exercises or for an emergency.

The Army is reluctant to make a substantial reduction in the number of bands. But it is felt by some officers that the need or every infantry regiment to retain a band is now outdated.

There is also likely to be a renewed effort to merge some army services, like the medical branch, with the Royal Navy and the RAF on a triservice basis.

Those are all relatively minor adjustments which could have a big effect on morale, so the Army is wary of moving too quickly.

Officers insist, however, that there is no intention to reduce the size of BAOR below its 55,000 establishment figure. They want only to prevent it from rising far above that total.

'We have the Rolls-Royce ready and are waiting for the driver'

Civil servants complete guerrilla pay campaign

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

Union leaders representing 530,000 white-collar civil servants are in the final planning stages of a campaign of industrial action which they intend to launch early next month unless the Government improves its 6 per cent pay offer.

A communications centre in Westminster will be linked with 40 regional action committees around the country to coordinate the guerrilla campaign and yesterday the union officials who will man the centre were given a final briefing by the senior London-based officials who will be meeting in almost continuous session to sanction requests from union members in specific areas.

Mr Peter Jones, secretry of the Council of Civil Service Unions, the umbrella body for the nine unions, said after the briefing: "We have the Rolls-Royce ready now and are just waiting for the driver to arrive".

The campaign, which is expected to cost at least £300,000 a week in strike pay to members taking action, is expected to last for several weeks if ministers decide to make no improvement on the offer before a meeting of the unions on Thursday next week, when the action will be sanctioned.

There has been speculation that ministers are prepared to relax the 6 per cent limit slightly in order to avoid such an unprecedented campaign of action, and it was being suggested in Whitehall last night that the unions may be called to a meeting with Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council and minister responsible for the Civil Service, at the end of this week.

The campaign would be aimed at key government computer centres such as the Paye income tax computers at Shipley, near Bradford, and Cumbernauld, near Glasgow, and the equipment at Southend which handles VAT collections.

Union leaders are hoping for a big turnout for a national one-day strike, which will probably be held on March 5, to launch the campaign. In addition to the selective strikes at computer centres, civil servants will be asked to work to rule, to hold meetings during working hours and withdraw co-operation and good will.

The communications centre will be manned by 18 people during the day in two shifts, who will, in true Civil Service style, be required to log requests for assistance, finance or permission to take action, in quadruplicate for distribution to various parts of the strike organization.

Union leaders will take a policy decision next week on whether to sanction action in the sensitive departments of health and social security and employment.

Photograph by Brian Harris

Helpers in the campaign centre. Requests will be logged in quadruplicate.

Drug's effect is to lop 6,500ft off Everest

By Nicholas Timmins

Doctors in Birmingham University Medical School have found a drug that has the effect of lopping 6,500 ft off Mount Everest.

That may not turn the 29,000 ft mountain into a molehill, but the discovery could have considerable importance for the tens of thousands of people who go trekking in the Himalayas and Andes each year, and for a host of high altitude climbers, skiers and even soldiers whose duty takes them to the higher and less hospitable parts of the world.

One man who apparently rates the benefits of the drug highly is Father Piers Grant-Ferris, the British Benedictine monk who spent eight days walking down the 23,000 ft Mount Aconcagua alone and without food last month. The Birmingham team supplied him with the drug for his climb and says he has written to say it was of great value.

The drug is acetazolamide, used in the treatment of glaucoma but now shown by a team of 20 from the Birmingham Medical Research Expeditionary Society to be of value in preventing acute mountain sickness. The condition, caused by altitude, produces nausea and headache in its mild form, but can be fatal when severe.

Mild symptoms start in susceptible individuals at about 10,444ft, although trekking parties have found that ascending far faster than the recommended rate may ward off the condition.

Acetazolamide has been experimented with before: an ascent in 1979 of Mount Chimborazo, 20,000ft and Ecuador's highest mountain, has shown in a scientific study that the drug does appear to work.

Ten members took the drug, 10 others a placebo, and the results, published in The Lancet, show that by both subjective assessment and clinical tests, those taking acetazolamide performed better in the oxygen-starved air and had fewer symptoms, although one climber on whom the drug appeared to have no effect had to descend.

Dr Jo Bradwell, chairman of the society, who took part in the expedition, said: "I would expect that mountaineers and people who trek to altitude would benefit enormously".

At the summit of Everest the drug would give the physiological effect of being 6,500ft lower. The effect was relative, so that someone trekking, say, to the Everest base camp, which is a popular holiday route but more than 17,000ft up, would gain less benefit but still the equivalent of 3,000ft.

That, Dr Bradwell said, could be most important in reducing deaths and accidents at height. Even experienced mountaineers such as Sir Edmund Hilary and Chris Bonnington were believed to have suffered from mountain sickness.

The condition took five to six hours to develop, and the fact that 90 per cent of accidents occurred during descent might be due not just to fatigue but to the early symptoms of mountain sickness. Even in the Alps mountaineers regularly spent time above 12,000ft, and about 250,000 people a year trekked at altitude in the Andes and Himalayas, he said.

Although the manufacturers list a number of side-effects, including dizziness and irritability, Dr Bradwell said that the doses given in the study caused no difficulties other than a sensation of pins and needles, which usually wears off.

The Ministry of Defence had taken some interest in the drug, as had the United States Army, but little had been published.

Fishermen step up Scots coast blockade

From Ronald Faux
Aberdeen

The fishermen's strike spread along the entire east coast of Scotland yesterday as skippers blockaded fishing ports in protest at the lack of official action to control cheap imports of fish.

The fleet from Arbroath put to sea but was recalled and boats from Fife that had intended to sail at midnight on Sunday decided to stay in port after strike organizers in Peterhead had appealed for their support.

Groups of fishermen from the north-east intercepted freezer lorries loaded with imported fish and tried, with little success, to prevent them from delivering to factories in Aberdeen. One strike official estimated that 2,500 boxes of fish had been brought in to Aberdeen by road.

The fishing vessels lay moored closely together in Aberdeen harbour: a line of boats was strung out across the entrance to the fishing port. Fishermen argued angrily with fish buyers who arrived at the quay to try to persuade them to lift the blockade.

Committees representing ports in north-east Scotland were considering whether to step up their action and prevent ships from operating on oil-related business from Aberdeen, Peterhead, Montrose and Dundee. A blockade of the oil terminal at Sullum Voe, Shetland, the largets oil port in Europe, is also being considered.

Appeal to ministry: The British Fishing Federation, representing vessel owners at seven main ports, will be at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in London today pleading their case for early grant aid if bankruptcies are to be avoided (Our Hull Correspondent writes).

Mr Peter Walker, the minister, has said there is a case for an early review of the Government's financial aid programme.

The federation disclosed yesterday that an independent cost analysis showed that the trawler fleet lost £4.5m in the six months to December. In the same period the trawlermen were getting 10.8p at the quayside for fish that cost them 14.7p to catch.

Fire disaster on Dublin scale 'could happen in Britain'

By John Witherow

The fire that killed 44 people and injured more than 100 at a Dublin discotheque early on Saturday could happen in Britain, fire chiefs and the British Safety Council said yesterday.

"It is only by chance that the fire in Dublin happeden there and not in the United Kingdom", Mr James Tye, director-general of the British Safety Council said in a statement.

He pointed out that he had given warnings for the past 10 years that discos, jazz clubs and other places of entertainment, particularly those for young people, were dangerous.

"They are not designed for safety, they contain highly flammable materials, they are inspected infrequently, if at all, and so-called fire precautions are not monitored."

Mr Tye said the council had predicted a fire on the Dublin scale for a long time. He is calling for tighter regulations, including the compulsory installation of sprinklers, the banning of foam furniture and padding and frequent inspection by fire prevention inspectors.

Mr Reginald Doyle, chief fire officer for Kent, said it would be impracticable to ban seating filled with polyurethane foam, which when ignited gives off dense smoke, fierce flames and and toxic fumes. But he added that more research should be undertaken into the possibility of using less dangerous foam.

Mr Doyle said there was a number of night clubs in Britain that operated illegally and had not been inspected by fire safety officers. Others might have modified decorations without fire service approval.

That could include putting up flammable curtains and false ceilings.

Mr Doyle felt that British regulations were adequate to combat most dangers from fire, but because of financial cuts officers were unable to inspect premises as often as they would like. "Panic in a fire, however, can always cause the best laid plans to go wrong", he said.

Arson investigation: There is still no hard evidence that arsonists caused the Stardust Club fire, Chief Supt John O'Driscoll, in charge of investigations, said in Dublin yesterday (the Press Association reports).

"Rumours are floating around and a number of allegations have been made in different places", he said. "But our minds are completely open.

He appealed for anyone who was at the club on the night of the disaster, and anybody else who had any information, no matter how trivial, to get in touch with the police. About two hundred police were yesterday taking and checking statements.

Police want to interview a woman worker at the club who told a doorman minutes before flames swept the premises that she had seen someone starting a fire. But attempts to trace her have been unsuccessful

The number of dead was officially reduced from 48 to 44 last night. So far 29 of the dead have been identified.

Photograph by Harry Kerr

Tracey McKay, aged nine, and Mr Keith Wyncoll, of the Crystal Palace Foundation, London, cleaning a dilapidated sphinx adorning a terrace on the old palace site. Volunteers of the foundation, set up in 1979, aim to preserve items of historical interest.

New closed shop dispute in Midlands

From Arthur Osman
Walsall

An appeal was made to Mrs Margaret Thatcher yesterday by two school "dinner ladies" threatened with dismissal in another closed shop dispute in the West Midlands.

The Labour-controlled council at Walsall, which adjoins Sandwell, where Miss Joanna Harris, aged 20, a poultry inspector, was dismissed last week for refusing to join a union, is ready to dismiss Mrs Joan Cooper, aged 52, of Falmouth Road, Walsall, and Mrs Doris Todd, aged 35, of Fosseway Drive, Erdington, Birmingham.

A telegram to Mrs Thatcher read: "Please help us. Dinner ladies closed shop dispute Walsall, West Midlands."

Mrs Cooper works at the Blue Coat Church of England infant school in Walsall, and Mrs Todd at the Streetly Comprehensive School, where some of her kitchen colleagues have refused to speak to her because she has declined to join the National Union of Public Employees.

Both lost their appeals against joining when they appeared before a disputes panel last Friday. The panel comprised of Labour councillors, union officials and a legal adviser from the local authority.

Councillor Brian Powell, the leader of the council, said yesterday: "They could not justify not belonging to a trade union".

Eight other people, mostly ancillary workers, would be required to give their reasons for not joining a union.

Mrs Cooper, who has six children, said: "I realize that I cannot win this battle, but I am going to fight until I have to give up. I have never categorically said I would not join the union, but I will fight to stay out of it."

Mr Norris McWhirter, of the Freedom Association, had been in touch with them.

Mrs Todd said: "I have no intention of joining the union. We both felt the panel hearing was a waste of time and money. We felt at a disadvantage because they obviously had no intention of changing their minds and we felt it was a fait accompli."

More Home News, page 9

In brief

Two for trial on jail plot charge

Stanley Thompson, aged 35, who is accused of escaping from Brixton prison and helping two others to escape, including Gerard Tuite, the alleged IRA man, on remand, was committed at Camberwell Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday on bail for trial.

Mr Thompson, of Ongar Way, Rainham, Essex, was charged with conspiring with Mr Tuite and James Moody to escape from the prison last December. Also committed for trial, on bail, was Mr Moody's brother, Richard Moody, aged 41, of Rosendale Gardens, West Dulwich, London, charged with conspiring with his brother to effect the trio's escape.

Island Tories' choice

Mr David Wilshire, aged 37, a political researcher and administrator, has been chosen from 128 applicants to be the Conservative parliamentary candidate on the Isle of Wight. He is married, with two children, and is from Midsomer Norton, near Bath.

General election: S. S. Ross (Lib), 35,889; J. D. Fishburn (C), 35,537; Mrs C. Wilson (Lab), 3,014. Lib maj. 352.

Lost for a century

An inscribed silver trowel which disappeared from a Roman Catholic church in Nottingham in 1880 was bought in a shop in Japan, by an American tourist, who has returned it to the Bishop of Nottingham, the Right Rev James McGuinness.

Dearer drinks

Scottish and Newcastle Breweries increased the price of beers in its 550 managed public houses by 1p yesterday. A nip of spirits is 1p dearer in the North-east and 2p dearer elsewhere.

Qantas flights stop

Qantas flights in and out of Heathrow airport yesterday and today were cancelled because of a strike by the airline's staff in Australia.

Gaelic campaigners daub 'justice' on road signs

From a Staff Reporter
Inverness

Road signs in a wide area of the Scottish countryside north of Perthshire were defaced last weekend with the slogan "Ceartas", which is Gaelic for "Justice".

The action came after the failure of the private member's Bill on Gaelic in the Commons.

About forty road signs were defaced. A spokesman claiming to be from a Gaelic language group calling itself Ceartas telephoned the Aberdeen Press and Journal and announced that a long-running campaign would be launched similar in style to the Welsh language protest.

Militant Gaels were clearly angered by the failure of the Bill and because Westminster took the view that Gaelic did not require further protection. The anonymous spokesman told the newspaper: "We now plan a campaign of civil disobediance which will include the destruction of transmitters in Scotland and England".

An Comunn Gaidhealach, the society which is the chief promoter of Gaelic, had described the Bill as potentially the most important happening for a generation in the Gaelic world.

Mr Colin Spencer, secretary, said yesterday that they were extremely disappointed that such a modest claim had been rejected and that it had taken five hours of debate to do it.

Six months' jail for supporter

John Kenneth Hickford, aged 21, a Middlesbrough football supporter, who ran on to the pitch during a Leeds United and Middlesbrough match, was jailed at Leeds Magistrates' Court yesterday for six months.

Mr David Loy, the magistrate, told Mr Hickford, of Hartburn, Stockton-on-Tees: "Your conduct may well have caused a riot, or near-riot". Mr Hickford admitted using threatening, abusive and insulting words or behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace.

Wife strangled man, 82, for money, QC says

Bernadine Arnett married her husband, aged 82, after a week's courtship, and strangled him 10 weeks later, Mr Peter Crowder, QC for the prosecution, said at Reading Crown Court yesterday.

Mrs Arnett, aged 51, had claimed it was because he demanded oral sex, but the real reason was that she married him and murdered him for his money, Mr Crowder said.

Mrs Arnett, of Monkswood Close, Newbury, Berkshire, denied murdering her husband by strangling him with her hands and a dressing gown cord on October 22 last.

Mr Crowder said Mr Arnett had been married to his first wife for 40 years up to her death in 1973. Since then he had lived alone in his £32,000 detached bungalow on a £12-a-week pension from his job as a salesman.

He had never had an overdraft, but his second wife began to run one up soon after their marriage. Counsel added: "In a matter of 10 weeks he was dead. To put it in a nutshell, this lady, who is some 31 years younger than her childless husband, married him for his money and murdered him for his money.

"She was out for money. After some weeks it became apparent that he was not as senile and stupid as she thought and there were indications that the will was going in another direction."

The trial continues today.

Helicopter trial

Routine patrols by a helicopter were started by Thames Valley police yesterday for a six-week trial to see whether man hour savings can be achieved.

New director for health education body

A nutrition expert based in the United States is to become director of the Health Education Council, the quango whose job is to persuade the nation to live a healthier life.

Professor Keith Taylor, aged 56, Professor of Medicine at the University of Stanford, is to take up the job on July 1 at £25,695 a year.

That is understood to be some £5,000 more than the salary of Mr Alastair Mackie, director general for eight years, who is to take an 18-month sabbatical until retirement after disagreements with some council members.

Mr Mackie, admired by journalists for an often abrasive style, was at times less popular with health educators and MPs. One campaign depicted a naked, pregnant woman and asked "Is it fair to ask your baby to smoke?"

Professor Taylor, born in London, qualified in medicine at Oxford

ITV chief says viewing is beating Saturday night out

By Kenneth Gosling

The British addiction to a good Saturday night out is rapidly giving way to a quiet evening in front of the television set, according to viewing figures disclosed at a London press conference held yesterday to publicize the spring schedules on commercial television.

Mr Michael Grade, director of programmes, London Weekend Television (LWT) said that 70 to 75 per cent of people with television sets were viewing on Saturday nights. He and his fellow programme controllers claimed most of that audience, not only on Saturdays but at other times as well.

Allegations by advertisers that the BBC had pulled ahead were firmly rejected. Mr Paul Fox, of Yorkshire Television, said that many independent television shows were featuring in the top 20 on Saturday nights; the balance had shifted to independent television and would stay there.

Mr Grade went farther. He said that as far as the winter schedules were concerned independent television had won every Saturday night; Dallas had slumped, ousted by The Professionals.

"The audience is coming back in very big numbers on Saturdays, and with people watching as much television now on all three channels as they ever did, this is very encouraging to us", Mr Grade said.

An unusually large number of new programmes will be shown by independent companies in the spring, including six comedy series and a good deal of original drama. A Ken Loach film for ATV, Looks and Smiles, deals with youth unemployment.

Documentary and current affairs programmes include an LWT film based on a year spent with Princess Anne, Captain Mark Phillips and their son, Peter.

Yachtswoman and friend on poisoning charge

Rosie Swale, the round-the-world yachtswoman, and her friend, Tracey Stamp, who had a sex-change operation 20 years ago, poisoned Miss Stamp's friend, Keith Vincent, a jury was told at Winchester Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Roger Titheridge, QC, for the prosecution, said that Miss Swale, aged 31, and Miss Stamp, aged 45, formerly Bernard Stamp, used a poison called Cytisine from the seeds of the laburnum tree.

They gave it to Mr Vincent not to cause him serious injury but to keep him out of the way, counsel added.

The accused couple also hatched a plot to have Mr Vincent jailed for breaking an undertaking not to pester them, he added. They arranged for a wreath to be sent to Miss Stamp, making out it had come from Mr Vincent, with the message: "My Dear wife. From Keith."

When interview by the police Miss Swale had claimed that Miss Stamp was not involved.

Mr Titheridge said it was untrue to say she had done it alone. He added: "The prosecution say the object of this was to shield and protect Miss Stamp."

Both women, of Chapel House, Pen-ffordd, Dyfed, deny maliciously administering poison to Mr Vincent with intent to injure, aggrieve or annoy him.

They also deny attempting to pervert the course of justice by fabricating evidence from which it might appear he was in breach of undertakings given to the High Court and had molested Tracey Stamp. Each further denies a charge of perjury.

The trial continues today.

Effort to avert new towns housing clash

By Our Planning Reporter

An attempt to avert a clash over the transfer of new towns housing to local authorities will be made on Thursday when members of the Association of District Councils meet Mr Geoffrey Finsberg, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of the Environment.

The matter has been an issue for years, since Basildon council refused to take on responsibility for development corporation houses without government financial help.

Recently it was announced that all the remaining new town corporations are to be wound up by 1990.

The councils may refuse to accept the housing without specific government guarantees. They fear that they will be saddled with large extra costs

Jump in number of student maths teachers

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Big increases in the number of students training to become mathematics and science teachers were announced yesterday by Lady Young, Minister of State for Education and Science.

The numbers enrolling for one-year Post Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE) courses in mathematics, physics and chemistry last autumn were 45 per cent up on the previous year, she told a department regional meeting in Kingston upon Thames.

Those students would be available for employment as newly qualified teachers this summer. The signs were that there would be an equally good crop next year.

Figures yesterday from the Central Register and Clearing House, which deals with all teacher training, show that applications to date for PGCE courses starting next October are up by 36 per cent for mathematics, 43 per cent for physics, 42 per cent for chemistry and 17 per cent for French.

Applications for three and four-year Bachelor of Education (BEd) courses for students whose first subject is mathematics are up by 29 per cent. Figures for the sciences are too low for proportionate increases to signify much; there are 15 applicants for chemistry, the same as last year, and 27 for physics, compared with 15 last year.

Applications for BEd courses in French are down by nearly a fifth, while applications for craft, design and technology, another area in which there are serious shortages of qualified teachers in schools, are about the same as last year.

Lady Young also said that a record number of people had come forward for training and retraining this year as teachers of "shortage" subjects under the Government's special scheme for adults aged over 25. A total of 819 people had come in under the scheme, compared with 500 the year before.

The scheme would continue for another two years. Support would also be given next year for the first time to teachers attending certain pilot courses of training in computer studies.

The Government has postponed until the 1982-83 academic year its pilot scheme of national scholarships for top quality students taking PGCE courses in mathematics and physical science at selected institutions. There was insufficient time to select candidates

WEST EUROPE

Thousands join huge protest at death of Basque suspect

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Feb 16

Tens of thousands of people joined a demonstration tonight in the three main cities of the Basque region in protest at the death in police custody of Señor José Ignacio Arregui, aged 30, who was suspected of being a member of ETA, the Basque separatist organization.

The demonstrations came after a day in which there was an almost complete general strike throughout the region.

Large and small industries closed, often after protest assemblies among the staff. In the three main cities the local authorities, transport, the post office and the municipal police all stopped working, as did schools, universities, shops and banks.

The regular Monday meeting of the Basque regional cabinet was also suspended.

In San Sebastián bank clerks marched through the main streets while hospitals staged symbolic strikes or attended only to emergency cases for the day.

In Vitoria, seat of the new autonomous government, a crowd of about 2,000 marched on the office of the civil governor shouting slogans against the Spanish police.

The strike, called by all the Basque political parties, except the Centre Democratic Union, and all the trade unions, coincided with the funeral of Senor Arregui in his native town where the coffin had been displayed on a catafalque in the main square.

An estimated 10,000 people followed the funeral service at which 11 priests officiated.

This evening's demonstrations used the same slogan—"peace and an end to violence for the Basque country"—as that adopted for the huge anti-ETA demonstration a week ago after the killing of a Basque nuclear engineer from the Lemoniz power station, by ETA Militar, the organization to which Señor Arregui belonged.

But the Basques were also protesting today for all Spaniards who have been shocked by the evident survival of police methods of the Franco era in spite of Article 15 of the constitution of 1978, which states: "Every citizen has a right to life . . . and shall under no circumstances be submitted to torture or inhuman or degrading treatment".

The Spanish press has begun to speculate that Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, if confirmed later this week by parliament as Prime Minister, will seize on the opportunity provided by forming a new administration to drop Señor Juan Jose Roson, the Interior Minister, in accordance with the traditions of ministerial responsibility in Western democracies.

Señor Roson belongs to the "Azules" faction of the Centre Democratic Union, so called because he was among those elements who joined the party formed for the 1977 general elections straight from the Franco regime's bureaucracy and who formerly wore the blue shirts of the Falange.

Later today an investigating magistrate is due to begin hearing the five Madrid police inspectors, now detained, who conducted the investigations. A final post mortem report says that Señor Arregui's death was caused by respiratory troubles resulting from bronchial pneumonia due, in turn, to "physical violence".

The Cortes, Spain's parliament, reassembles tomorrow after the Christmas recess and one day before Señor Calvo Sotelo presents his government programme. Opposition parties have indicated they intend to press the outgoing government on the scandal.

A total of 114 of the 147 convicted or suspected ETA terrorists detained in Madrid's Carabanchel prison have started a hunger strike in protest at Señor Arregui's death.

According to the police, Señor Arregui was responsible for the killing of two civil guards and when arrested in Madrid on February 4 was allegedly preparing the kidnapping of a prominent public figure.



The shattered interior of an office in the South Yemeni Embassy in Paris after yesterday's attack.

Rockets fired at Paris embassy of S Yemen

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 16

The South Yemen Embassy, near the Arc de Triomphe, was damaged in a rocket attack early today. No one was injured but a fire was started which partly destroyed the first floor offices of the embassy.

An anonymous caller later claimed that the attack was in retaliation for "all the victims of the Rue Copernic". Last October, an explosive device went off outside the synagogue in the Rue Copernic nearby, while prayers were in progress. Four people were killed and 20 others injured.

The attack appeared to be the work of professionals. The two rockets which caused the damage were fired with a timing device from a courtyard in Avenue d'Iena, which overlooks the back of the South Yemen building.

The launchers were placed on a wall, about 9 ft high, and trained on the first floor windows of the embassy about 30 yards away. They smashed through the iron bars and shutters of one window and exploded in one of the offices, starting a fire.

About half an hour after the explosion, a recorded message was received on the telephone by Agence France-Presse agency. It said: "We claim responsibility for the action carried out this morning against the South Yemen Embassy. We signed it next to the launching spot of the rockets. Remember Copernic."

Police investigators found the two burned-out rocket launchers, and on top of the wall where they had been sited the zinc sheeting had partly melted away, but scrawled in black paint, the words "remember Copernic" were still visible.

The embassy remained closed today. But it issued a statement this afternoon which said that there was no doubt whatever as to those responsible for the attack. "They are the forces hostile to the Popular Democratic Republic of Yemen, who hope to deflect the Yemeni people from their struggle to achieve a better future.

"This terrorist act is the more criminal because the embassy staff live in the building with their families and peaceful civilians were singled out as targets.

"This attack, which could have led to loss of life, is in flagrant contradiction with diplomatic rules and norms. We therefore expect of the French authorities that they start immediate investigations which must lead to the arrest of the executioners who planned this aggression", the embassy statement said.

Mr Ibrahim Souss, the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization in France, declared that the attack against the South Yemen Embassy coincided with "repeated acts of provocation against the offices and representatives of the PLO in Paris in the last few days".

Police investigation into the bomb attack against the synagogue in the Rue Copernic is still marking time after four months. No trace has yet been found of a mysterious "man with a motorbike".

US move on disarmament breaks deadlock at Madrid conference

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, Feb 16

The United States broke what had appeared to be a deadlock at the European security review conference here today by taking a long awaited stand on security and disarmament issues and backing a French proposal.

"President Reagan has resolved to commit the full support of the United States Government to the French proposal," Mr Max Kampelman, the head of the United States delegation, told delegates during a plenary session of the 35-nation conference this morning.

His remark cleared the way for the possibility of an eventual disarmament conference, something which the Soviet Union has insisted on since the Helsinki review talks began here last November.

Until today, America had withheld support from all of the various proposals on matters of security. Since the final conclusions of the Madrid conference must be approved by all participating countries, the non-committal attitude of the Americans threatened for some months to block progress in the security area.

The French proposal, backed by members of the European Community, was tabled last December. It incorporates an important feature which the United States has insisted on repeatedly: confidence-building measures, consisting of the obligatory and verifiable reporting of all significant military activities through Europe. The United States delegation put off any decision on the French proposal until after President Reagan's inauguration.

According to diplomatic sources, at the closed-door plenary session Mr Kempelman said: "Unless this meeting mandates a negotiation with specific and firm criteria those who dislike effective confidence-building measures will keep us talking about words, about vague declarations and about pious but meaningless pronouncements for generations to come, and all without coming to grips with the basic requirements for real security . . . We will absolutely not lend our support in this meeting to cosmetic and meaningless negotiation."

Mr Kampelman also emphasized another point at the session. The United States expects, he said "a balance of progress on security, on human rights and on economic cooperation . . . The progress we contemplate in the security area must be matched by significant steps forward in the other areas of the review conference".

The French proposal on security calls for confidence-building measures effective from the Atlantic to the Urals. This is much deeper inside the Soviet Union than the present limit of 250 kilometres (155 miles) east of the Soviet Union's European border.

The chief American delegate rebutted East European objections that the Soviet Union would be obliged under the French proposal to reveal troop movements in its own territory whereas the United States would not.

He argued that more Soviet troops would actually be exempted from coverage than American troops since there are about twice as many Soviet troops east of the Urals as there are American troops in the United States.

The French proposal is more specific than a Polish plan, which is the principal one presented by the Soviet block. Asked whether the United States could support a "marriage" of the French and Polish proposals, Mr Kampalman said at a news conference after his speech that "the essential preconditions" regarding obligatory confidence-building measures must be included as part of the dowry "if there are any suitors proposing marriage".

Greek bases talks run into snags

From Mario Modiano
Athens, Feb 16

The negotiations between the United States and Greece on the future status of the American military installations here, have run into some difficulty. Both sides however rejected suggestions today that the talks, which began three weeks ago, had reached an impasse.

The Greek Government is trying to trade off the bases against some credible United States reassurances about Greece's safety in the Aegean, including a pledge that the practice of granting military aid to Greece and Turkey so as not to upset the balance of power between them will be continued.

Exchanges about this request as well as about the assurances sought for Greek territorial integrity in the Aegean are taking place at higher level but Washington appears reluctant to assume any commitments that could embarrass its relations with Turkey.

The base negotiations proper which are being conducted by diplomatic-military teams in Athens, were suspended for a few days for technical reasons, but will be resumed next week with the intention of winding up the first exchanges.

One of the most difficult points in the negotiations is the extent of the command and control that the Greek base commander would be able to exercise within the bases to ensure against their unauthorized use for non-Nato purposes.

British plea for farm price restraint

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 16

A plea to EEC agriculture ministers to show restraint when fixing the level of Community farm prices at the annual spring review was made here today by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Sir Geoffrey said that agriculture ministers should bear three things in mind—the need to fight inflation; the need to restrain public spending by governments; and the need to reduce the share of agriculture in the EEC budget (currently about 70 per cent).

It was imperative, Sir Geoffrey said, that real increases in fadm prices should be kept at levels which did not contribute to agricultural susgluses. Farmers were not the only people to have suffered loss of income, and it was "the business of finance ministers to argue for the acceptance of economic reality even if it is tough".

The Chancellor was speaking during a discussion by EEC finance ministers of the financial implications of this year's farm price negotiations, which will get under way later this month after the European Commission has unveiled its proposals.

The finance ministers intend to return to the subject at their next meeting on March 16 when they are expected to issue a collective statement setting out their view on the criteria that should determine the price settlement.

The broad outline of the commission's proposals which will be made known on Wednesday or Thursday, is already clear, and is expected to involve an average farm price rise of 7 to 8 per cent.

Sir Geoffrey refused to be drawn on what the British Government would consider a reasonable price settlement, but a figure of 4 to 5 per cent is said to be favoured by the Treasury and the Ministry of Agriculture. Most other member-states have indicated that they are looking for a two figure increase.

Hospital escape by terrorist

Parma, Feb 16.—A convicted member of an Italian terrorist gang escaped from a hospital today

Cesare Maino, aged 40, was recently transferred from Pama prison to the hospital where he was having tests for a liver complaint. Police had no immediate details of how he escaped. He had been serving a 15-year sentence.—Reuter.

Herr Honecker favourable to reunification of Germany

From Gretel Spitzer
Berlin, Feb 16

For the first time in years the possibility of German reunification has been officially mentioned in East Germany.

Speaking to party functionaries in East Berlin yesterday Herr Erich Honecker, the East German leader, not only used the word—it was crossed off the party statute years ago—but also approved of unification should West Germany turn "socialist".

The day would come when socialism would be knocking at the doors of West Germans now pretending that unification mattered more to them than their purses, he said. Once the working people embraced socialism to remould West Germany, the question of unification of both German states would stand in a new light. "There should be no doubt what our decision would be", he said to prolonged applause.

In a realistic assessment of the scope of action of both German states as members of different blocks, Herr Honecker emphasized the significance of relations between the two states for world peace, a relationship that carries "no little weight".

He said East Germany would continue in accordance with the coordinated East block foreign policy, to try to shape its relations with West Germany to safeguard peace.

East German sources implied that the country would like to explore the possibility of a joint German initiative on disarmament. It is understood that this was a main topic on the East Germany aganda for Herr Honecker's meeting with Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, that was cancelled by Herr Schmidt at short notice.

Cool reception: West Germany responded coolly to Herr Honecker's statement on unification (Reuter reports from Berlin).

SPD leader quits: Herr Dietrich Stobbe, the Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin until he resigned last month when defeated by the House of Representatives, today announced his resignation as chairman of the West Berlin Social Democratic Party (SPD) (Gretel Spitzer writes).

Herr Peter Glotz, successor to Herr Egon Bahr as manager of the SPD in Bonn, agreed to take over the chairmanship of the Berlin SPD.

Elections keep M Marchais at home

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 16

M Georges Marchais, Secretary General of the French Communist Party is not going to the Soviet party congress in Moscow at the end of this month. He is the third West European communist leader who is unable to make the trip.

But the reasons for M Marchais not attending are quite different from those of his Spanish and Italian counterparts, Señor Santiago Carillo and Signor Enrico Berlinguer.

They have to do with the French elections and imply no disapproval of Soviet policy in Europe or the armed intervention in Afghanistan.

In contrast, the Spanish and Italian communist parties have given warning that Soviet intervention in Poland would lead to a break in their relations with Moscow.

M Marchais, who has reverted to a strictly orthodox line in relations with Moscow at the expense of his earlier enthusiasm for Eurocommunism, made his announcement during a radio interview last night.

M Pierre Juquin, a member of the political bureau of the French Communist Party, said: "The leadership of the party had decided that Georges Marchais would not go out of France during the whole current period.

The political bureau of the party has said it would be represented in Moscow by a delegation led by M Georges Plissonnier, secretary of the central committee.

It would obviously not be judicious from an electoral point of view, *Le Figaro* points out today, for M Marchais to be photographed on Red Square at the very moment when the Warsaw Pact countries might decide to intervene militarily in Poland.

The leftist newspaper *Liberation* describes the French communist leader's decision to stay away from the congress as "opportunism".

It would look a little too much as though he were going to Moscow to receive his marching orders, to do everything in his party's power to facilitate the reelection of President Giscard d'Estaing, without appearing to do so, or, rather, to ensure that M Mitterrand, the Socialist Party candidate, does not benefit from communist votes in the second ballot

Holland joins the world's wine producers

From Robert Schuil
Amsterdam, Feb 16

Wine from grapes grown and ripened on what was seabed a few decades ago today put Holland on the viniculrural map of the world.

The first bottle of white Flevolander was handed with some ceremony tonight to the mayor of Dronten in the Flevopolder which claims to possess not only the most northerly vineyard in the world but also the lowest lying one.

The 1980 vintage was only 20 litres but this is expected to increase to between 5,000 and 6,000 litres in few years' time. About 1,000 Weissburgunder vines were planted in the Dronten vineyard three years ago.

French Academy honours Dr Sakharov

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 16

Dr Andrei Sakharov, the leading Soviet physicist and human rights campaigner, was today elected a foreign associate of the French Academy of Science. He has been living in exile in Gorkiy, 125 miles east of Moscow, for the past year.

He was elected an associate member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, another of the five academies of the Institut de France, a year ago.

"This election is not a political act", M Paul Germain, one of the two secretaries of the Academy of Science declared after today's election,

"Our choice was based on the great importance of the work achieved my Sakharov in the different fields of physics.

In spite of his exile, Dr Sakharov continues to write a great deal, notably on the structure of matter

Mystery of Russian letter 'leak'

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Feb 16

Who is influencing whom is a fair question after accusations here tonight that Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist Party leader, sought in a speech yesterday at Turin to impose the party's views on the unions.

In the same speech, he rejected what he regarded as Soviet interference in Polish affairs in response to Russian accusations that he, not they, was the misleading influence on the Poles.

The speech may well turn out to be as important as it is obscure. It comes after a deep political mystery broke over the publication of a highly confidential letter to him from the Russians on the Polish issue.

The text will appear in the next number of the periodical *Panorama*. It contains harsh criticism of the Italian party's anti-Soviet treatment of the Polish crisis. The Italians are accused—obviously in what was supposed to have been a secret reprimand — of "supporting those forces which have unleashed a true and proper offensive against socialism in Poland".

The letter arrived in December and was brought personally to Signor Berlinguer by an official of the Soviet Embassy. Its existence has only now been made public and it is still far from certain whether its contents were revealed to *Panorama* by the party here or by the Russians.

There is a plausible explanation for either theory. The communists here might wish to have their hands clean in the event of a Russian invasion of Poland. They might also feel that publication of the highly critical letter shows them to be free of Russian influence.

The Russians might have published it in order to demonstrate to the uneasy rank and file of the Italian party how dangerously far Signor Berlinguer is carrying them from the gospel according to Moscow.

Given that he is known to have troubles with his more traditionalist followers, especially now that the election of an openly anti-communist President in the United States makes flexibility suspect, the view of a Russian breach of confidence is also not unthinkable.

Signor Berlinguer did not go a long way towards solving the mystery yesterday.

On domestic measures, however, including the need for a political lead to the trade union movement, he was unusually harsh. He called for a "profound transformation which includes the economy, society, the parties and also ideas, because one thing is certain: it is not possible to emerge from the present situation with simple adjustments and marginal corrections".

But Signor Berlinguer's dilemma is that he needs evidence of difficulties with the Russians in order to cultivate at home his own claim to lead a potential party of Government. Which brings one back to the theory that he, not the Russians, might have leaked the letter.

US space shuttle is worrying Moscow

Moscow, Feb 16.—*Pravda* today accused the United States of planning to use its new space shuttle to extend the arms race to space.

One of the shuttle's *main* tasks, the party newspaper claimed, would be to test lasers capable of destroying rockets in mid-flight. The shuttle would have other military functions, such as inspecting objects in space and retrieving them for dismantling or destruction

Moscow would clearly be concerned about the possibility of its own space satellites being picked up and brought back

Unlike previous spacecraft, the shuttle is designed to return to earth intact and to be used again for other missions.

The *Pravda* accusations came on the eve of important shuttle engine tests at the Kennedy Space Centre at Cape Canaveral, Florida. Washington has insisted *it will use* space *only for* peaceful purposes.—Reuter.

British High Commissioner went beyond 'normal functions' over constitutional issue, Canada says

From John Best
Ottawa, Feb 16

Sir John Ford, British High Commissioner to Canada, went beyond his "normal functions" in conversations about patriation of the Canadian constitution, and strayed into the realm of politics, the Canadian Government found today.

Mr Mark MacGuigan, Canada's External Affairs Minister, said however, he had been informed that the British Government has "no intention" of interfering in Canadian affairs, and that he considered the matter of Sir John's conduct closed.

Mr MacGuigan was reporting on an "investigation" launched earlier this month after Mr Edward Broadbent, the leader of Canada's New Democratic Party (NDP), accused Sir John of "intolerable intereference" in Canadian affairs.

The charge resulted from a *conversation the High Commissioner* had with an NP Member of Parliament at a skating party. Sir John outlined the difficulties which Mr Pierre Trudeau's present move to bring home the constitution from Britain is likely to face in the British Parliament.

In making the change, *in the* House of Commons, Mr Broadbent said there had also been other instances where Sir John had overstepped the bounds of proper diplomatic conduct.

Answering a Commons question about the investigation today Mr MacGuigan said the Canadian Government had no objection to anything the High Commissioner may have done to represent his Government's position "in relation to its interests".

Nor did it object to his trying to "communicate an understanding of the situation in the British Parliament. This is an entirely appropriate type of diplomatic activity." Part of *what Sir John had done fell into* this category.

The Minister said he had been assured that Sir John had "noted" the views expressed in the House by Mr Broadbent and himself. Mr MacGuigan did not single out any instances today where *Sir John allegedly* exceeded his normal functions.

The British High Commission here said the Foreign Office today expressed renewed confidence in Sir John. The High Commissioner was expected back in Ottawa later today.

Ottawa's case: Mr MacGuigan is to visit London next month to press Ottawa's case in the constitutional dispute (Our Foreign Staff writes).

He is to address the Canada Club on March 25 on the constitution, and probably will seek a meeting with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, Canadian officials in London said.

Debate on a Bill to amend the Canadian constitution begins *in Parliament at Ottawa* tomorrow.

Philippines prepares to welcome the Pope

From Peter Hazelhurst
Manila, Feb 16

The Pope will witness some sharp contrasts between the rich and poor in Asia and in the influence of the Christian faith in the region when he arrives in Manila tomorrow to begin a nine-day visit to the Philippines and Japan.

Reflecting how the Roman Catholic Church has emerged as a dominant force in the Philippines during the past four centuries, millions of staunch Christians, many of *them representing some of the* poorest people on earth, are expected to line the streets of Manila and other cities during the next four days to pay homage to the Pope.

Making his first visit to Asia as leader of the Catholic Church, the Pope will celebrate Mass at Manila Cathedral tomorrow and beatify Lorenzo Ruiz, a *seventeenth-century* Christian martyr on Wednesday.

He will then witness the real problems of the church in Asia, the reason why a Third World country, dominated by Roman Catholicism, has virtually defied Rome and is attempting to promote all forms of birth control.

On Wednesday the Pope will be escorted to the district of *Tondo in Manila, one of the* country's worst slums, where he will meet "the poorest of the poor", staunch supporters of the Catholic Church who eke out a living supporting large families on minimal wages.

"We are not informing the families selected to meet the Pope in Tondo. If we did they would attempt to use their small savings to dress up for the visit. We want the Pope to see them at first hand", Father Melchor Dando, the local parish priest said.

However, Father Melchor pointed out that all of the families under review are staunch Catholics and have six or more children.

Mr Michael Fernandez, a social worker said: "That *should* show the Pope why we must reduce our birth rate from the existing level of 2.3 per cent."

Bullock carts laden with baskets trundling under a welcome banner in Manila.

The Pope will call on the country's authoritarian leader, President Marcos, and his wife at Malacanang Palace tomorrow; but Cardinal Jaime Sin, the Archbishop of Manila, and the church, a leading champion on human rights, have been at pains not to associate the Government too closely with the Pope's visit.

"This is a pastoral visit. More than 85 per cent of 49 million *Filipinos* are Catholic and so we want to make certain that *President Marcos is* unable to use the visit to enhance his political ambitions", a prominent leader of the church, the country's main opposition force, told *The Times*.

The Pope will also fly to the southern islands of the archipelago to get a close view of an uprising of minority Muslim militants who are fighting for a separate Islamic state, a battle that has gone on for 80 years.

In sharp contrast to the poverty, political unrest and the deep seated roots of the Catholic Church in the Philippines, *the Pope will fly to Japan* next week to see the newly-found affluence and stability of a society motivated by Confucian ethics.

When he arrives in Tokyo the Pope will find the church as a small and uninfluential religious minority within the social framework of the world's second largest industrial power.

"The Catholic Church is tolerated and even admired in Japan; but we must accept the fact that we have failed to attract more than a tiny minority to our faith since Christianity was first introduced to Japan", Father Jamie Lopez, a visiting Jesuit, admits.

Statistics released recently by the Japanese Government reveal that about 1 per cent of Japan's 116 million people are Christian and only 400,000 of these have been attracted to the Roman Catholic faith.

The advance of the Catholic Church was retarded in Japan in 1620 when the Tokugawa Shogunate isolated Japan from the rest of the world and banned Christianity as a foreign religion.

Christians who refused to convert to Buddhism renounced their religion in public but remained "hidden Christians" until the Tokugawa dynasty was *toppled* in 1856 and Japan reopened its contacts with the West.

Father José de Vera, the dean of Tokyo's Roman Catholic Sophia university, recently told journalists that he hopes the Pope's visit will provide the Vatican with more understanding of the Roman Catholics' problems in Japan and, at the same time, enhance the church's influence.

But despite the church's standing in Japan, there can be little doubt millions of curious Japanese will follow the Pope's visit with keen interest.

Zimbabwe House opens its doors

By David Spanier
Diplomatic Correspondent

It was a great occasion, a sentimental occasion, a day to tug the memories of guerrilla fighters and Cabinet ministers alike, the reopening of Zimbabwe House in the Strand yesterday.

When Dr Witness Mangwende, Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister, declared the new High Commission open for business in the building, now newly painted after standing empty for 15 years of Rhodesia's rebellion, it marked an extraordinary turning of the diplomatic wheel of fortune.

Lord Soames, the governor who had handed the colony over to independence, was in his most ebullient form, greeting like long lost brothers the men whom just a year ago he had been battling with over the ceasefire.

Sir Alec Douglas-Home, former Foreign Secretary, was there, as was Dr David Owen, both politicians whom the Africans had many times derided and denounced

It was also an occasion when bad news was coming from Zimbabwe, in the serious clashes between rival forces in Bulawayo. Dr Eddison Zvobgo, formerly Patriotic Front spokesman at the Lancaster House conference and now Minister of Local Government and Housing, played down the reports of the fighting.

"The *events* in Bulawayo do not represent a setback in any shape or manner to our process of reconciliation", he declared firmly.

"You must understand that what has happened in Bulawayo was simply the fact of a few members of the armed forces, specifically Zipra, disobeying government orders.

"It did not involve any civilians and the Government proceeded to deal with these acts of disobedience by disciplining the forces. The situation is absolutely under control. We have no further anxiety

Dr Zvobgo insisted that the fighting bore no relation to the Government's policy of reconciliation. "We let bygones be bygones, because to reopen the past is simply to prejudice our chances of reconciliation. The process of integration is succeeding very well."

One sign of this, certainly, was the presence yesterday of a white Zimbabwean, Mr Denis Norman, the Minister of Agriculture, who gave a glowing report on the new nation's progress.

"Agriculture is the big safety valve", he said. "*It is the most* important industry in the country and it meets three essential needs. It is the biggest employer of labour at 34 per cent, it is also the largest single earner of foreign exchange, and it has managed to provide the country with its entire food requirements."

The only critical note, by contrast, yesterday was sounded by Mr Enos Nkala, the Minister of Finance. He feels aggrieved, and has not stinted to express his views, about the British aid contribution to Zimbabwe. Although the Government has pledged £75m in aid, and written off £22m in debt, Mr Nkala *objects to the British attutude*, given its long colonial legacy in Rhodesia.

Lord Soames, with a friendly hug around the minister's shoulders, did his best to persuade him that Britain is doing a great deal, but Mr Nkala was not convinced. Next month an important aid conference, attended by Britain and other donor countries, will meet in Salisbury, to help Zimbabwe's development more substantially.

Dr Mangwende called on Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday, where the main subject discussed was the future of Namibia.

Dr Mangwende's main complaint, he made clear to the press yesterday, was that British papers gave a distorted picture *of life in Zimbabwe*: "The situation is not as bad as it is painted", he said. "We have achieved what many Governments failed to achieve in 20 years—peace."

Attache may have been drugged by Russians

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 16

An attempt by the Soviet secret police to blackmail and recruit an American military attaché as a spy might have involved *the use of drugs to inca*pacitate him and a colleague, *The Washington Post* reported today.

The attaché, Major James Holbrook, was recalled to Washington from Moscow last month shortly after informing his superiors of the blackmail attempt. He was one of four candidates recommended by the Army for the post of special military adviser to Mr George Bush, the Vice-President. The post has yet to be filled.

According to informed sources in Moscow quoted by the paper the attempt to recruit Major Holbrook as a spy took place in the western Ukrainian city of Rovno in the middle of January. The major, who is a Soviet affairs specialist and speaks Russian fluently, was visiting the city with Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Spencer, an army colleague.

While the two men were in the city, which is not far from the Polish border, Colonel Spencer became ill—possibly drugged—and the two men became separated. Because of the risks of being alone under the watch of the KGB, American attachés always travel in pairs in the Soviet Union.

It was at this stage that an attempt was made to blackmail Major Holbrook by obtaining compromising photographs of *him*. It was not clear from the *Washington Post* account how the attempt to blackmail the major *was* carried out except that it apparently *involved* a Soviet colonel *who was an old* acquaintance of Major Holbrook.

Other sources quoted by American news agencies in Moscow said, however, that the major was photographed in a compromising situation with a Soviet woman. There were threats that the material would be made public unless he agreed to work for the Soviet Union.

The State Department here has refused to confirm or deny the various accounts of the attempted spy recruitment.

Vote-catching budget in South Africa

From Our Correspondent
Johannesburg, Feb 16

South Africa was treated to a vote-catching mini-budget today with Mr Owen Horwood, the Finance Minister, announcing a broad package of pay rises for public servants and pensioners and hinting at more tax cuts

Voters go to the polls on April 29 and it was widely expected that Mr Horwood, introducing a Rands 8,900 million (about £5,028m) part-appropriation Bill would take steps to cure disenchantment of public servants.

Teachers, who have been leaving the profession in thousands for better paid jobs in the private sector, *were singled out for* a 20 per cent *rise*. There were also increases for prison officers, the police, nurses and soldiers.

Four sentenced to death for Mozambique terror

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg, Feb 16

Four men have been sentenced to death and 27 to long Prison terms in Mozambique for crimes committed *in* the name of the Malawi-based Free African Movement.

The official Mozambique news agency, AIM, reported from Maputo today that the movement was closely related to the Mozambique National Resistance (RNM) movement which President Samora Machel of Mozambique has claimed is backed by South Africa.

The four men sentenced to death were said to have spread terror in northern Mozambique and to have murdered peasants *who had joined cooperatives* and communal villages. The 27 jailed for between eight and 14 years were convicted of armed robbery, receiving military training and recruiting rebels.

There has so far been no official South African response to President Machel's denunciation of the attack by South African troops three weeks ago on a headquarters base of the outlawed South African National Congress (ANC) near Maputo.

President Machel paraded eight army officers, barefoot and manacled before a crowd of 50,000 people, and said they would be charged with treason and corruption. He said they had ordered their troops not to engage in combat with the South Africans.

But he made no specific threats against South Africa and *there was no hint in his three*-hour speech of any change in the economic relationships which are extremely valuable to both countries.

Solidarity union hopeful on labour truce

From Dessa Trevisan
Warsaw, Feb 16

The first serious indication that Poland's independent trade union leadership is ready to accept the appeal by General Jaruzelski, the Prime Minister, for a strike-free period of 90 days came today in an interview with Mr Karol Modzelewski, the spokesman for Solidarity.

He left no doubt that the union welcomed the new Government and regarded its programme as creating a real chance for the dangerous trends in the country to be halted and for a new partnership that could usher in a new era in Poland.

The political climate has changed dramatically and the tense situation has calmed down. *General Jaruzelski's* 10-point Government programme has greatly contributed to this by his unequivocal pledge to open a dialogue with the *people*.

Solidarity, on its part, has taken several steps to stop the dangerous spread of local strikes. It has let it be known that some controversial issues will not now be negotiated under the threat of strikes but in a calm atmosphere, thus showing willingness to meet the Government's call for a truce.

General Jaruzelski's Government, the union spokesman said today, commanded respect and was enhancing confidence, which is new in Poland as in the past six months similar Government appeals had fallen on deaf ears.

Mr Modzelewski spoke of the new Government's programme *as providing a real chance* for the country. What Poland needed, he said, was a strong Government as the danger was in weak authority which failed to win social *respect* and tended to ignore the union by confronting it with *fait accompli*, such as was the case recently with the five-day week.

The Government must prove by its actions that it meant what it said. One inescapable condition was to respect the partnership with the independent union and to seek together a way out of the crisis. The objective was not a mere 90-day labour truce but a long-term peace which, however, did not mean to say that there would be no strikes, he said.

The important thing was to avoid confrontation and to continue the dialogue. However, Mr Modzelewski emphasized that strikes in Poland were *here to stay* as a feature of the social and economic landscape.

But he left no doubt that a new relationship of trust was now beginning to emerge and that the union was ready to help the Government as an equal partner in public life.

From many parts of the country messages of *support* for General Jaruzelski's Government are coming in indicating how much the popular mood has changed. Although no predictions can be made as yet on how lasting this mood will be one thing is certain: General Jaruzelski's direct approach has swung public opinion to his side. And in this lies the chance of his Government.

Call for toughness: The Soviet Government newspaper *Izvestia* tonight published an implicit call for tough Government action against extremists in Poland's Solidarity union who, it claimed, had embarked on a course of political subversion (Reuter reports from Moscow).

Setback for Israelis as court rules on electricity takeover

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Feb 16

The Israeli Government today suffered a severe setback in its attempt to expropriate the Jerusalem District Electricity Company, the largest remaining Palestinian-owned business in either the occupied West Bank or the former Arab sector of Jerusalem.

In a controversial judgment, Israel's Supreme Court ruled that the Energy Ministry had no right to take over the Arab concession in the West Bank, although it was legally entitled to expropriate the Palestinian company's assets in annexed East Jerusalem.

The three judges requested the ministry to consider, in the light of the judgment, whether it now wanted to cancel any part of the company's concession. They also issued a 15-day injunction preventing the Israelis from taking over the East Jerusalem assets, indicating that such a move would have to be preceded by another court hearing.

It is estimated that the company serves about 40,000 consumers in East Jerusalem, another 30,000 in the West Bank, including a number of Jewish settlers, and Israeli army posts. Its headquarters and generating plant are in East Jerusalem.

Reading the judgment, Justice Yitzhak Kahane rejected the Government's claim that the takeover had been mooted purely for "economic and technological" reasons. The judges decided that it had been intended for political purposes and, as such, was illegal under the international law which applied to the occupied West Bank but not to annexed East Jerusalem.

Both sides claimed the verdict as a victory and Mr Anwar Nusseibeh, a former Jordanian Defence Minister and company chairman, said: "I am confident that the entire company will remain intact and under Arab control". Earlier, many of the 400 Palestinian employees had pledged to resist any Israeli takeover.

A spokesman for the Energy Ministry said that Mr Yitzhak Moda'i, the Minister, would be studying the verdict before announcing his intentions. "As a result of the Supreme Court decision there is now no legal obstacle to prevent us winding up the company's operations within Israeli sovereignty", the spokesman added.

It was unclear whether the ministry will press ahead with this partial expropriation despite the implied disapproval reflected in the court's verdict. The minister is believed to be under pressure from some hawkish Cabinet colleagues to split up the company, despite the complications such a move would pose.

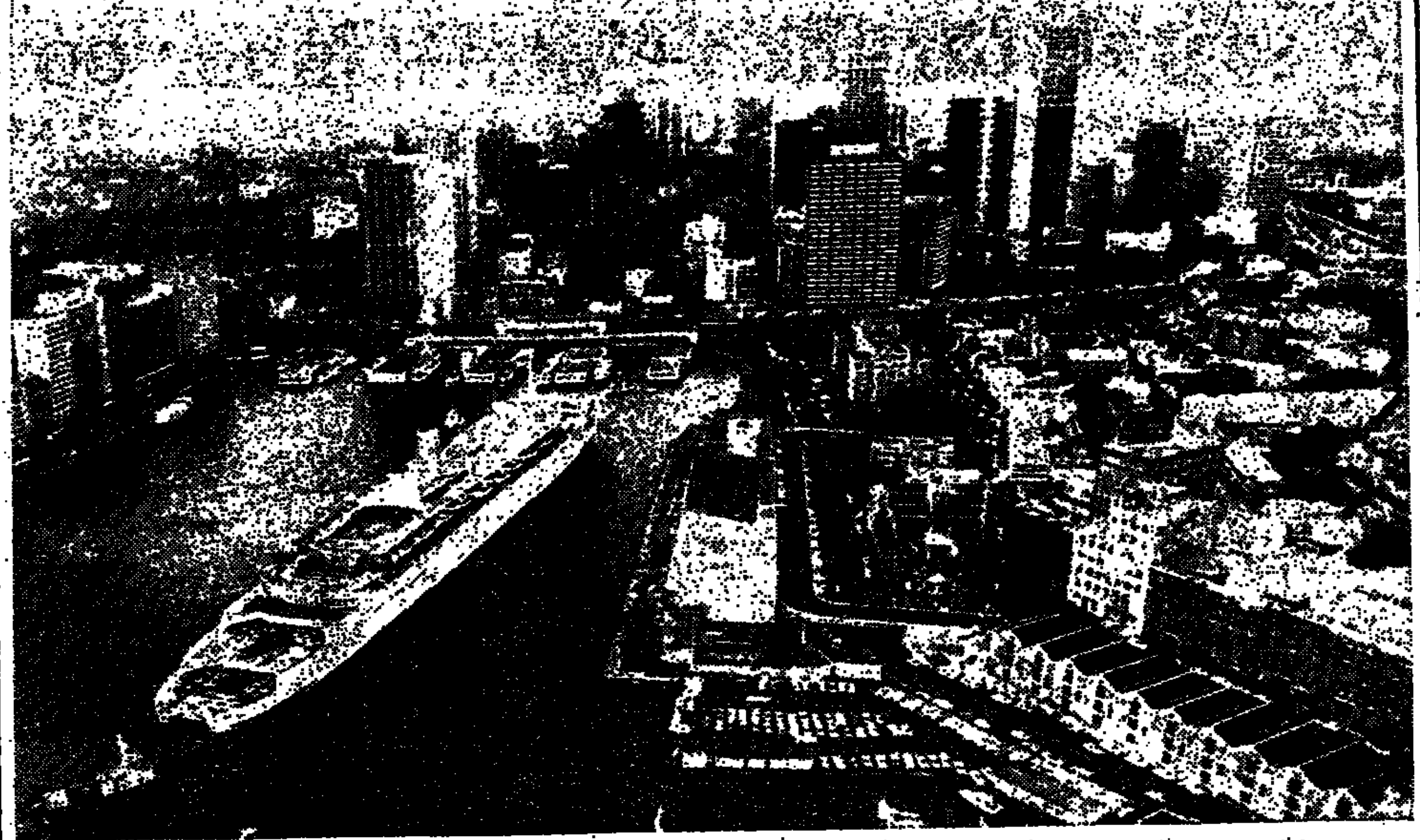
Since the takeover scheme was first announced in January last year, the electricity company's future has become an emotive symbol of the efforts by the local Arab population to resist increasing Israeli influence in both the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

Historically, the contested electricity concession is regarded as extending for 20 miles from the dome of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

In recent months, both the opposition Israeli Larbour Party and leading members of the Jerusalem municipality have bitterly criticized the takeover plan, warning that it could become the focus for serious new clashes

Sabotage charges: Three Palestinians and two Egyptians have been charged with trying to sabotage the Israeli Embassy in Cairo (Reuter reports). The Egyptian state security services said yesterday that the efforts of the five were instigated by Al Fatah, the Palestinian guerrilla organization, and Syrian intelligence.

A spokesman said there was enough evidence to believe that an explosion last April at a synagogue in central Cairo was caused by people collaborating with the group.



The liner Queen Elizabeth 2 docks at Sydney yesterday during an 83-day round-the-world voyage

Patriarch's election eases tension in church

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Feb 16

Archbishop Theodoros of Ierapolin, aged 58, head of the Greek Orthodox community in Jordan, was elected Patriarch of the Holy Land today, defeating Archbishop Vasilios, the Metropolitan of Caesarea who had been favoured by Israeli officials.

The synod voted nine to five, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem said and the decision was proclaimed by the pealing of the ancient bells.

Observers said the election of Archbishop Theodoros is expected to ease pressure in Jordan to separate the Greek Orhodox community from the patriarchate in Israel-controlled Jerusalem and to join the patriarchate in Damacus which is headed by an Arab.

Archbishop Theodoros was responsible for 15 years for the Greek Orthodox community in Jordan although he was subordinate to the patriarch in Jerusalem.

Slightly more than half of the 110,000 members of the community in the Holy Land are Jordanians. About 35,000 are Israeli Arabs and the rest residents of the occupied West Bank.

Israeli officials said the attitude of the community to the Jewish state was strongly influenced by the patriarch, Benedictos I, who died on December 10 at the age of 88, had maintained a warm relationship with the Israel authorities, it was said.

Under his tenure the church leased lands to the Israeli Government for development projects including a national park around the old city of Jerusalem.

Israeli officials acknowledged privately that they had been dismayed by the prospect of bringing in a patriarch who had been exposed to Arab political views for a decade and a half.

Some lobbied discreetly for Archbishop Vasilios. Mr Teddy Kollek, the Mayor of Jerusalem, said he had told clergymen who ha dasked his advice that he regarded Archbishop Vasilios as someone he could work with.

Israel and Jordan had power to veto any of the candidates but the Israelis decided not to veto Archbishop Theodoros. An official explained that Jordanians would have reacted by vetoing Archbishop Vasilios and creating a deadlock with Archbishop Germanos, an outright anti-Israeli, continuing to function as acting patriarch.

Officials said today their concern about the new patriarch had now been largely dispelled. At a reception in the patriarchate after the election today Archbishop Theodoros, speaking in Greek, said he desired to promote good realtions with the Israeli and Jordanian authorities.

The Greek Orthodox is the largest Christian denomination in the Holy Land and the patriarch is recognized by other churches as the doyen.

The West Bank—1: Bitterness equalled only by some areas of Belfast

Elections force renewed settlement drive

From Christopher Walker
Kalkilya, Feb 16

The stubborn intractability of the Middle East crisis will ensure that in the coming months the attention of President Reagan, the European Community and the disgruntled Israeli electorate will become increasingly directed towards a stretch of land only slightly larger than Norfolk.

Covering a total area of 2,200 square miles, the occupied West Bank has become the focal point for the continuing struggle between Arab and Jew. No stranger over the centuries to occupation by foreign armies, it is destined in part (or totally) to provide the location for any successful attempt to establish a Palestinian homeland.

At present, after more than 13 years of Israeli military rule, it provides a bizarre contrast in cultures and a reservoir of inter-communal bitterness equalled only by some of the more violent areas of West Belfast. Prosperity and economic dependence on Israel are growing side by side with a festering hatred of the Israelis and a significant radicalization in Arab political attitudes.

Stretching for 80 miles from Jenin in the north to just below Hebron in the south, the West Bank ranges dramatically in appearance from the fertile valley near the Dead Sea to barren mountains which rise to 3,000ft. In width it stretches as far as 34 miles from the bank of the Jordan, forming at its broadest point a strategic frontier which comes within nine miles of Israel's Mediterranean coast.

It was here at a hillside war



memorial near the old border that former General Ariel Sharon, Israel's hardline Agriculture Minister recently took a party of British politicians to illustrate why his Government is determined that "Judea and Samaria" (the Israeli name for the West Bank) will never be handed back to the Arabs.

A huge bull of a man with an unshakeable belief in the historical right of Jews to sovereignty over the whole area, Mr Sharon pointed through the morning haze to Israel's main power stations, all within easy range of the former Jordanian artillery positions where we stood.

"The future of this territory will be the most complex and controversial problem facing Israel", he predicted.

Mr Sharon is the political mentor of the extreme Jewish settlement group, Gush Emunim (Block of the Faithful) and has probably done more than any other Israeli in the past 13 years to transform the demographic map of the West Bank.

Undaunted by American criticism or the resentment of moderate Israelis, he has pressed ahead with the skeleton of a controversial settlement plan which envisages 300,000 Jews living in the West Bank by the turn of the century.

Today, the size of the Jewish civilian population is 18,000, compared with a total of 720,000 Arabs. But that well armed, highly motivated and predominantly right-wing Jewish presence has increased five-fold since the Likud coalition came to power in May, 1977.

With less than five months to go before the general election which is expected to sweep Labour back to power, Mr Sharon and other Cabinet hawks are now devoting Government cash and politicial muscle to bolster the settlements to their maximum strength before they make their expected return to the Opposition benches.

Since 1967, the Israelis have purchased, expropriated or otherwise seized for civilian and military purposes more than 370,000 acres of West Bank land, nearly a third of the whole. Of this, some 28,000 acres is already devoted to settlements which vary in type from expanding development towns (complete with industrial areas) to small clusters of mobile homes surrounded by ugly barbed wire fences.

"For the Arabs, the settlement issue is more dangerous than the occupation", Mr Elias Freij, the elected Palestinian Mayor of Bethlehem said. "An occupation may end one day, but the constant expansion of settlements threatens our very existence in the West Bank

The Israeli Government always refers euphemistically to the West Bank as an "administered area" rather than "occupied territory"

For this reason, international criticism that Israeli policy is in breach of Article 49 of the Geneva Convention forbidding "individual or mass forcible transfers" into or out of occupied territory is neatly sidestepped.

Other standardized euphemisms now in official use include the "closing" rather than the "seizing" of Arab land, the "thickening" of Jewish settlements and constant reference to the Arab inhabitants as "the minority" (an observation which only applies if the West Bank is taken with the whole of Israel).

Over the past 13 years, the West Bank has also seen a drastic change in its political make-up. The traditional, conservative notables who predominated before the occupation have now almost disappeared, having been replaced by a different breed of local leaders who claim a fierce loyalty to the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Since last May, the military government has employed a draconian security policy

Israel's political crackdown has promoted a dispirited, almost despairing mood among West Bank Arabs. But it has singularly failed to produce one credible local Palestinian leader prepared to support the concept of limited autonomy outlined in the Camp David accords.

There will be four more articles in the series.

Unions plan to resist the Reagan budget

From Frank Vogl
United States Economics Correspondent
Washington, Feb 16

Heavy cuts in the United States government credit programmes covering the next four fiscal years will be part of the new economic strategy to be announced by President Ronald Reagan on Wednesday.

Administration officials believe these cuts will ensure that more funds are available in the capital markets for private borrowers and that interest rate pressures in the markets will be eased.

They also believe that cutting Government lending will make it easier for the Federal Reserve Board to control the money supply and that it will also secure greater efficiency in federal agencies.

The scale of the proposed credit programme reductions has yet been disclosed although officials leave no doubt that it will be very large. The President will announce up to $53,000m (£22,650m) of actual spending cuts for the next fiscal year on Wednesday, and full details of all the budget measures will be announced then and over the next few weeks.

The AFL-CIO trade union organization's executive committee is meeting in Florida this week to plan a strategy to attack the Republican Administration's economic programmes. On Thursday leading Democratic members of Congress are expected to open an attack of their own at a hearing of the joint economic committee.

In the forefront will be Henry Reuss,the committee's chairman, and one of its best known liberals, Senator Edward Kennedy.

The attacks by the Democrats, according to sources in Congress, will focus at first on the redistributive nature of the Reagan programme, claiming that benefits are being withdrawn from the poor while considerable tax relief goes to better-off Americans.

The sources said it is unrealistic to expect more than half of the social welfare cuts to be approved by the Congress and these spending reductions will be matched by rises in defence spending advocated by Mr Reagan, so that the whole budget exercise does not, in fact, lead to any fall in inflation.

To counter these expected attacks the White House is preparing a publicity campaign to parollel Wednesday's announcement of the new economic strategy.

The Administration's concern with credit programmes arises largely from the dramatic rise in federal debt. Latest budget office estimates suggest thot the debt level will exceed $990,00m by the end of this fiscal year, on September 30, after having increased by 42.2 per cent to $931,000m during the four years of the Carter Administration.

The scale of likely credit programme cuts is indicated in Budget Office documents, prepared for Cabinet consideration, that discuss the programmes of the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), the Federal Farmers Home Administration (FHA) and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

In its confidential paper the Budget Office proposed that new loan commitments by REA be cut from April 1 by more than $5,000m a year. The reduction sought in the TVAs borrowing is $4,000m — from $9,000m to $5,000m over the next four years.

The Budget Office said the FHA has grown dramatically and that it is now providing annual loans of around $14,000m to housing and community development in rural areas that could be just as well financed without Government subsidies by direct borrowing in the markets.

Leading article, page 13



Czechoslovakia expels several French diplomats

Vienna, Feb 16.—Czechoslovakia has ordered several members of the military section at the French Embossy in Prague to leave the country after accusing tem of espionage, the official Ceteka news agency reported today.

It said that the French Government had also ordered two Czechoslovak military ottacheés from their Paris embassy to leave the country, in the face of protests from Prague. The French diplomats have been asked to leave Czechosolvakia "within a reasonable period of time, because of activities at voriance with norms of international law".

Western diplomatic sources in Prague said those involved included two military attachés. They are believed to have alreody left the country.

Ceteka said the diplomats had been caught in a prohibited area in central Bohemia last December, and several days ago were picked up in onother banned area in north Bohemia. The agency claimed that there was "documentary proof" that they had been engaged in intelligence gathering.

Last week, the British Government protested to Czechoslovakia about th treatment of an oir attaché at the British Embassy in Prague who was forcibly taken from his car outside the city by uniformed police and held for a number of hours despite his diplomatic immunity.—Reuter.

Iranian intellectuals attack 'two years of tyranny'

Tehran, Feb 16.—A group of 38 prominent Iranian intellectuals, many of them opponents of the late Shah, said today that two years of Islamic rule had brought repression, torture and injustice to Iran.

The accusations were made in an open letter signed by writers, academics, lawyers and journalists who accused the Islamic authorities of violating human rights, showing contempt for the Iranian masses, suppressing ethnic minorities and leading the country towards economic disaster.

Academics in Tehran said the letter, circulated in the streets, reflected widespread and growing disenchantment among professionals and intellectuals with the way Iran is going. The 21-point letter was issued a few days after the second anniversary of the Islamic revolution which overthrew the Shah.

Listing what it called acts of tyranny since the revolution, the letter said the authorities had been guilty of "filling the prisons with militants and libertarians and torturing them".

Accusations of torture were also made last November by President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr in a public speech which led to Ayatollah Khomeini setting up an investigating committee. Torture is a sensitive issue in Iran because of allegations of systematic brutality by Savak, the Shah's secret police.

Ayatollah Muhammad Beheshti, head of the Supreme Court, was quoted as saying today he did not know whether the torture investigation committee had completed its work and that it had been instructed to present its final report to Ayatollah Khomeini.

The signatories of tod ıy's letter included at least seven people who had served prison sentences for opposition to the rule of the Shah.

The newspaper *Islamil Revolution* said today that several people were arrested after they waved pictures of President Bani-Sadr and shouted support for him during a speech by Hodjatoleslam , Rafsanjani, Speaker at the Iranian Parliament. The newspaper said four of those arrested were sentenced to whippings and several months in jail after being found guilty of disturbing public order at Tuysarkan 180 miles southwest of Tehran.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

OVERSEAS

Chinese told to guard against excesses in anti-Maoist campaign

From Francis Deron of Agence France-Presse
Peking, Feb 16

The Chinese regime admitted for the first time today that the movement to "liberate the spirit", meaning the campaign against Maoism, launched two years ago, has gone too far.

The *People's Daily* carried an article giving warning against excesses and signed by the newspaper's "special commentator", believed to be the pen-name of General Hu Yaobang, the Communist Party Secretary, who will soon take over as party chairman.

A stern call to order was published today by the *Guangming Daily*, read mainly by intellectuals, after protests from intellectuals against the abolition of certain forms of free expression including the writing of big character posters.

The *People's Daily* commentary criticized "those who believe that the liberation of the spirit should lead to all sorts of unprincipled fantasies and limitless expression of any sort".

"Liberation of the spirit" was the slogan launched by Mr Deng Xiaoping, the party vice-chairman, *in 1978 against* excessive fidelity to "leftist" Maoist ideas.

The commentary said: "The liberation of the spirit must not in any case lead people to go beyond the bounds of objective reality". It emphasized a need to bear in mind China's backwardness.

Observers noted that although the article refrained from using the same terminology as pro-Maoist party leaders who have been saying for some time that the movement has gone too far, the regime, which had so sharply criticized the pro-Maoists, now seemed to be agreeing with them.

The *Guangming Daily* noted that five months after the abolition last September of the right to put up big character posters which had been enshrined in the Chinese constitution since 1966, "there are still people in society who are attached to it. They dream of being able to use big character posters to unleash a campaign throughout society".

There has been some unhappiness among intellectuals recently over the regime's avowed aim to clamp down on all, even moderate, political demands.

The Chinese authorities for their part have accused activists and dissidents of wanting to spark "a second Cultural Revolution" despite their *unanimous condemnations of* the movement launched by Mao.

The *Guangming Daily* firmly warned recalcitrant intellectuals that in no case would demands for return of banned forms of free expression be tolerated.

New Soviet protest over Japanese island campaign

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 16

For the second time within a month the Russians summoned the Japanese ambassador to the Soviet Foreign Ministry today to deliver a strong protest over the Japanese campaign for the return of the South Kurile Islands.

Mr Tokichiro Uomoto was told that the Japanese claims *were "illegal" and that the* campaign had recently taken on a nature bordering on enmity towards the Soviet Union. He was also told that the Russians held his Government responsible for organizing the campaign, and on the newly designated "day of northern territories" on February 7 hooligan acts were committed against Soviet missions in Japan.

"Such steps may be qualified only as deliberately directed at worsening Soviet-Japanese relations," the protest said.

The Russians rejected any link between the campaign over the islands and Japan's refusal to sign a peace treaty with the Soviet Union. They said the causes were well-known: "The unrealistic stand of the Japanese side and advancement of ungrounded demands, having no prospects by their nature for resolving the question which, in fact, does not exist in relations between our countries."

The note accused the Japanese of making it steadily less possible to conclude a peace treaty after the Second World War by allowing foreign military bases on their territory and making treaties with other states directed against the Soviet Union—a reference to Japan's military alliance with the United States and its 1978 treaty of friendship with China.

"A legitimate question arises whether the Japanese side really wants our relations to be put on a firm treaty basis", the Note added.

"How can one speak about the desirability of this while in practice launching various unfriendly campaigns,"

Guyana poll rigged, report says

The election last year in the former British colony of Guyana was flagrantly and massively rigged, according to a report published yesterday.

It says there is overwhelming evidence to show voters were intimidated and cheated in the December election, which was "grossly unfair". The report, published by the British Parliamentary Human Rights Group, is by a team of international obsedvers led by Lord Avebury, the Liberal peer.

Most of the coercion was applied by the ruling PNC party, *led by the minority* Afro-Guyanese, the report says.

The Guyana Human Rights Association and other groups asked for international monitoring of the elections; the country has a history of unfair voting. But the Guyana Government refused to help the watchdog groups and "actively tried to frustrate it at every turn", the observers say.

They found political control of the media and inaccurate voting lists. People were often wrongly turned away from polling stations. Some were told they were not eligible "because they were dead".

There was frequent *double* voting. Polling stations were delayed from opening in opposition areas

Lord Avebury, who the report says was arrested on a trumped up charge on polling day, said the elections showed that the government of President Burnham was far from legitimate.

Something to Remember. (British Parliamentary Human Rights Group, £5).

Opposition leaders held in Pakistan

Karachi, Feb 16.—Opposition sources reported today that the military authorities had arrested four leaders of Pakistan's outlawed political parties in the wake of student violence over the past five days.

According to the sources, the four—three national politicians and one local party leader—were among the leaders of nine groups which announced the formation of an anti-Government alliance 10 days ago. They are demanding an end to military rule and the holding of parliamentary elections within three *months.*

Police refused to confirm or deny the arrests, reported to have been carried out in Lahore and Multan, Punjab's two most populous cities. Under Pakistan's rigid martial law the authorities can detain people without charges and do not have to give details of their arrest.

The student unrest began in Multan last Thursday over a dispute with bus drivers. It quickly developed into an anti-Government protest and spread to four other cities

Other disturbances were reported in Quetta, capital of Baluchistan, and Malakand, in the *semi*-*autonomous tribal* region along the frontier with Afghanistan.

The Opposition sources named the arrested men as: Maulana Fazlur Rahman, head of Jamiat Ulema; Nawabzada Masrullah Khan, of the Pakistan Democratic Party; Mian Mehmud Ali Kasuri, acting president of the Tehriq Istiglal Party; and Mr M. A. Gohir, Pakistan People's Party chief in Multan.—Reuter.

Farmers' mass rally in Delhi backs Gandhi policies

From Kuldip Nayar
Delhi, Feb 16

Nearly one million people took part today in a farmers' rally organized by India's ruling Congress Party here to demonstrate its hold over the country

Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister who is also president of the party, called the rally in order to counter the impression created by recent farmers' protests, particularly in Maharashtra, that the Government was averse to paying a good price for agricultural commodities.

With 80 per cent of India's 650 million people living in villages, a ruling party cannot afford to upset the farming community. Furthermore, the Congress Party has been drawing its main support from the countryside.

In her address Mrs Gandhi tried to placate the "Kisan Bhai" (farmer brethren), as she put it. At one stage she said: "If it serves your interest, we are even prepared to irrigate fields with our blood".

Several roads leading to Delhi were closed to traffic as the sea of humanity waving Congress flags and banners flowed into the capital.

A considerable portion of the crowd was not wearing the traditional dress, *Pugree* and *dhoti, indicating that many in*dustrial workers, dressed in Western clothes, from neighbouring towns, swelled the farmers' ranks.

It was the biggest rally ever witnessed in the capital and £16m is said to have been spent in transporting lodging and boarding the demonstrators.

However, the opposition was not impressed by the rally the main opposition parties boycotted today's session of Parliament, which was devoted to the budget debate, in protest against "the anti-farmers' policies" of the Government.

In his speech in Parliament, President Reddy appealed to all sections of the community to exercise restraint in demanding higher wages and prices as this would increase inflation and reduce the resources needed for investment.

THE ARTS

A search for the painter's inner compulsion

William Johnstone
Hayward Gallery

Gerald Wilde: Works from 1929-1981
October Gallery

William Scott: War Paintings 1942-46
Imperial War Museum

Merlyn Evans: Seven Paintings 1965-1968
New Art Centre

It is a brutal saying, and not even entirely true, that those who can, do, and those who can't, teach. In recent years, indeed, many of our finest painters have been compelled to earn their bread and *butter* teaching in art schools, since they could not safely support themselves from painting alone. But the fact remains that when the calls of teaching in a man's life are blamed for his not being more widely known or more highly thought of as a painter, scepticism raises its ugly head. Last year the Serpentine bravely showed one such painter, Patrick George, and admirable though his work proved to be, on a certain level, one could see quite well why he had remained better known as a teacher than as a painter: there was lacking some of that urgency and determination, and powerful individuality, which refuse to be denied in a really first-rate painter, however beset by purely economic difficulties he may be.

William Johnstone, now being honoured, in his eighty-*fourth year, with a substantial* retrospective at the Hayward Gallery (until March 29) is another such. Instead of George's evident placidity of temperament we encounter an erratic, extrovert and sometimes explosive personality; confirmation of that, were any needed, would be plentifully provided by his recent autobiography, *Points in Time* (Hutchinson, £15), in which he enjoyably lays about him, cudgelling many a sacred cow of the art establishment (Herbert Read for one) off the field with fine abandon and disregard for the niceties of tact. This same ebullient, combative nature applied to the business of painting should produce remarkable results—and every now and then it in fact does so. There are several paintings in the show which are fine and memorable by any standards, and nothing which falls below a high *standard of skill and* competence.

And yet.... It is easy to admire, if not exactly to love, the very dark and glum early landscapes. The semi-abstracted symbolic works of the late 1920s, with titles like *Conception, Garden of the Hesperides* and *A Point in Time*, have an easy monumentality and a very period feel to them. *Throughout the 1930s he seems* to have geen preoccupied with teaching and writing educational books, and for all that we can see here he painted very little until the late 1940s. When he took up painting again in a big way, it was more or less where he left off, with largely abstracted landscapes and figure compositions, and he seems to have reached a creative peak in the middle 1950s, with some really splendid abstracts, in the tone of the times (closely comparable to the Lanyon/Hilton/Heron/Frost group, in other words), intense in colour and powerful in the simplicity of their forms. After which—and after retirement an amazing amount of activity, almost all abstract, playing with oriental influences in some of the small landscape drawings and large calligraphic paintings, flirting with Abstract Expressionism as *understood by Motherwell and* the Barnett Newman of the paperworks, moving around dollops of grey plaster on grey plasterboard, or spraying vast areas of canvas in delicately graded patches of pastel colour.

All of which is thoroughly admirable on a human level. So much so that, at least, one absolutely does not find oneself saying things like, "Well, he's a very old gentleman, so we must make allowances": on the contrary, the very latest paintings are full of a youthful verve and vigour which wholly, joyously belie the painter's venerable age. On the other hand, looking over the fruits *of a long, if still far from* completed, career, it is difficult to avoid the feeling that the vital spark which makes all the difference between a good painter and a great painter is missing. The changes of style seem random rather than inevitable, and there are few pictures which convince one that they just had to be painted. Some of the works from the late 1950s, such as *Green Fields with Hayricks* and *Landscape*, both of 1957, and especially *Untitled* of 1960, are among the best paintings of their period, which comes increasingly to look like a very good time for British art. But for the rest there is too little continuity, and too much that looks marginal rather than central to its maker's busy life.

Gerald Wilde, now, is a very different matter. Born in 1905, he is already nearing venerability, too, supposing one could *associate such a term with one* so impish and unpredictable. And think what one will of his work, there is never any doubt that it has welled out of him in answer to some strong inner compulsion. The retrospective of his work scattered rather haphazardly round the Victorian school-building which now is the home of the October Gallery and Editions Poetry London (24 Old Gloucester Street, Queen's Square, until March 7) covers more than 50 years, and even from the very first piece, a meticulously realistic lithograph of a *Dressing Table* from 1929, there is something strange and compelling about it. From then on he seldom looks like anyone else: the *Three Prostitutes* of 1937 has perhaps a hint of Burra, the *Pier Study* of 1939, with its fiery colouring, an anticipation of Piper the war artist. But with the expressionistic figure compositions like *By Grand Central Station I Sat Down and Wept*, and the subsequent slide into turbulent abstraction, he is right on his own.

It seems that at the end of the 1950s Wilde underwent some kind of spiritual awakening of the kind propounded by Gurdjieff, and it must be admitted that in his case the effects have been all for the good, since "thought-form" paintings, so dire in undisciplined hands, take on in his high-tensile strength, and whether he is depicting *Spacemen*, evoking *Pompeii* or simply letting the lines wander with controlled freedom across a blue ground, as in the beautiful pastel *Drawing* of 1975, there is no doubting the power and independence of his vision or the casual skill with which he puts it on paper.

Wilde is a perfect case for rediscovery. William Scott one would think so famous that to rediscover him would be an absurdity. And yet, since artists do not always clearly understand their own value, there has remained an obscure passage in his career which he virtually expunged from the records because he did not like the work he was then doing. Fortunately, the persistence of the Imperial War Museum has persuaded him to change his mind, and the results of their researches are now on show (until March 1) in a small show of his *War Paintings 1942-46*.

Apparently what he did not like about the paintings and drawings of this time was that they were, to his eyes, tinged with a baneful Neo-Romanticism which to this increasingly classical painter, concentrating Morandi-like on his pots and pans, was anathema. That may well be, but there is a sort of nightmarish intensity about the deserted, devastated street of *Night Convoy*, or a wan poetic mystery about *Lovers in a Glowing Wood*, which, however mistrustful of them Scott may now be, remain very personal to him as well as characteristic of their period. It is good to have this ample evidence that the lithographs in Patric Dickinson's anthology of *Soldiers' Verse*, the only examples of 1940s Scott which have been readily accessible for some years, were no fluke, and to see him take his rightful place again among the most distinguished, if least prolific, of British war artists.

Merlyn Evans belonged to exactly the same generation as William Scott, and had he lived would now be 70. He, too, went through various phases, beginning as a representational painter, moving into a sort of free-form abstraction, then in the 1960s into a hard-edged, geometrical abstraction, and then in his last five years back towards a looser, more "painterly" approach. The seven paintings in the show at the New Art Centre, Sloane Street, until February 28, are all from the most *rigorously abstract* phase, and though they are sometimes recognizably akin to contemporary works of Victor Pasmore or Ben Nicolson, they have a tough, brooding quality of their own, partly resulting from Evans's use of black in great solid masses, and partly from the way he troubles the eye by seeming to deal in straight lines and coldly regular forms, only proving at second glance to throw things subtly off with the faintest curve, the almost unnoticeable irregularity. Again it is useful to be reminded of a painter who made his own way, and looked, at this pivotal stage of his career, both back to the 1930s and forward to Robyn Denny and other painters of our own time.

I wrote about the Edward Hopper show which now shares the Hayward Gallery with William Johnstone from New York *last year; I shall return to the* subject next week.

John Russell Taylor

Gerald Wilde: *Marriage of Heaven and Hell* (1971-72)

LSO/Atherton
Festival Hall

Paul Griffiths

Sunday night's concert, the third in the present phase of the Stravinsky festival, was a quite extraordinarily stimulating oc*casion, enough to make anyone* wonder again at the variety of the composer's output. There is surely no other musician who could field four such diverse works, ranging in time from the Pushkin eclogue *The Faun and the Shepherdess* of 1907 to the mystery play *The Flood* of 1962, and including also *The Star-Faced One*, a mystical vision of Christ in judgment vastly scored for men's voices and orchestra, and the opera-oratorio *Oedipus Rex*. Here was youthful romanticism and aged parsimony, religious exultation and the didactic elucidation of a myth.

Since Stravinsky's death almost a decade ago it has begun to be possible to detect certain constants in his music, but a programme like this must give one pause. It is utterly baffling, for instance, that on the way from *Petrushka* to *The Rite of Spring* he should have written *The Star-Faced One*, a short and almost immobile cantata which fixes a halo of hazy harmony around the poem by Balmont. It is also odd to observe how in the Pushkin piece the young Stravinsky was willing to indulge in a gushing *lyricism*, leaning towards Tchaikovsky, and it hardly helps one to place these works to note that they share the mythologies, Christian and Greek, of later masterpieces.

Wisely, David Atherton, conducting the London Symphony Orchestra, made little attempt to impose a common style on the evening, though he did show how so many of Stravinsky's ideas, particularly those for solo winds, have an almost palpable feel and distinctiveness, whatever the work. With his energetic rhythms and his neat timing he was also able to remind us how skilled Stravinsky was as a musical dramatist, and it was good to hear *Oedipus Rex* for once made abundantly theatrical, the London Symphony Chorus not blinded by the Latin but thoroughly living the words.

The soloists were excellent too. Ann Murray, delightful in *The Faun*, was a Jocasta of beautiful voice and vulnerable demeanour, whereas Robert Tear as Oedipus effectively took an opposite approach, sounding weak but singing with vaulting pride. The smaller parts were well taken by John Shirley-Quirk, John Tomlinson and Anthony Rolfe Johnson, all of whom were also involved in *The Flood*. But that work, even with Michael Hordern as narrator and Ronnie Stevens as Noah, seemed by comparison as wooden as the ark.

Any Trouble
Marquee

Richard Williams

Any Trouble, a quartet from Manchester, belong to that admirable strain of British rock music which originated in a particular reverence for the qualities of Buddy Holly and Eddie Cochran. That is not to suggest that they are in any sense revivalists; merely that they enjoy manipulating the basic three chords of pop, they like their music to have a rhythmic charge, they believe in strong hook-phrases, and they feel emphatically that a song should end once its point has been made.

The upholders of that tradition suffered a lean time during the era of progressive rock. Mostly they subscribed to *Let It Rock*, started groups to play for pints in pubs, and waited their opportunity. It came with the arrival of the new wave, and a return to brevity which allowed the sharper of them, notably Elvis Costello and Joe Jackson, to reassert their values in a slightly modified form.

Any Trouble have been com*pared with Costello and* Jackson, since the singing of their leader, Clive Gregson, is unmistakably influenced by the former, while his compositions contain elements strongly reminiscent of both. He does possess a degree of originality, though, and it is most readily apparent in live performance.

Unusually, in these days, he conveys a sense of fun. Watching Gregson, one is made to feel the sheer pleasure to be had from playing in a good rock and roll band, whether in a garage to friends or at Wembley for thousands. Gregson plays for the moment and not, like most of his contemporaries, for next week's chart position.

He also plays tough, functional rhythm guitar while Chris Parkes deals out steely, curling lead lines. On Sunday Martin Hughes, their new drummer, handled the terse arrangements well in combination with Phil Barnes, the bassist.

About one in five of Gregson's songs is really memorable. That neither "Second Choice" nor "Girls Are Always Right" was a hit speaks most eloquently about the dictatorship of fashion; one day soon he will write something irresistible. Fans of Holly, Springsteen, Knopfler and Costello should not even wait that long, but investigate forthwith.

Book review

I Passed This Way
(*Virago*, £12)

Teacher
(*Virago*, £2.95)

Spinster
(*Virago*, £2.95)

By Sylvia Ashton-Warner

Sylvia Ashton-Warner has written a long account of her life in New Zealand in *I Passed This Way*. In *Teacher* we find a lively and entertain*ing thesis on the* teaching of reading to Maori children (with an application to all children) and *Spinster*, a novel. Three books—and yet one book, for the second two are hewn from the first, and it is rewarding to see how they evolved.

Born in 1908. one of nine children of a crippled father and an indomitable mother (who was a teacher), overshadowed by a older, prettier, and cleverer older sister, teaching seemed to be the inevitable career for Sylvia. She did not want to be a teacher, but there did not seem to be anything else to do. Marriage to Keith Henderson, himself a teacher, and a most exceptional man, set her on her true career, as an educator, not just a teacher, of children and adults alike.

Their early life was extremely hard. Their first school at Whareereno was one room dug out of a hillside, and their living accommodation not much more than a hut. Children were born, and had terrifying accidents, far from doctors and hospitals in places reached only by wagon or on horseback. But they progressed in their careers, even in the much despised areas of teaching Maori children, then regarded as virtually professional suicide.

The prime aim then was to teach the Maoris to be exactly like British children. "Janet and John" reading books provided had no meaning or interest for those brought up in the *pa*. Sylvia Ashton-Warner says:

Maori children, generally speaking, love tribal gatherings with emphasis on food and spiritual matters. While we, featuring the intellect, are segregating irretrievably.

She devised a system she calls "organic teaching", recording the surfacing of the "key vocabulary" and harnessing the natural energy of the child to reading. She made her own reading books in a pre-Xerox era, the earliest on pieces of painted plywood, which were varnished, and washed once a week. Later she made a set of four Maori Reading Books, with 123 illustrations. The history of all this work makes depressing reading. No one in New Zealand wanted to publish *Teacher*, and while one publisher was very excited by the Reading Books, publication depended on whether the Education Department would order 10,000. The order was not forthcoming, the Department *feeling* that the aim was to instil British culture, first and foremost. It was not until *Spinster* (a fictional account of the experiences in *Teacher*) was published in 1959 and went on to be a best seller in the United States that any public recognition was given to her, and that somewhat ungraciously.

Through her autobiography runs the theme of unrequited *love*—for her country, and *its* aims and ambitions. There is a small, parochial spirit unwilling to allow merit or originality its due in New Zealand—curiously enough even Fleur Adcock's introduction to *Spinster* is generous to the author and less than enthusiastic *about the novels*. She bears some animosity towards New Zealand generally; but it has to be remembered that her schemes were so disapproved of that her official rating as a teacher, was, on one occasion, pronounced by an inspector to be "Nil", and the originals of the Teading Books were carelessly burned by someone who had borrowed them.

Her husband died 19 days after he had retired, much loved and respected. Then came wandering years in America and Canada, teaching, lecturing, forming new friendships, and causing some *uproar—for at no time does* she deny that she is a difficult woman, thin-skinned, anxious, easily upset; at the same time *she is talented, gifted,* a *born* teacher, not a person to fit easily into a system or hierarchical structure, but also someone, once encountered, never forgotten.

Philippa Toomey

Trio Exvoco
Round House

William Mann

The group now touring Britain for the Arts Council's Contemporary Music Network are three singers from the Schola Cantorum choir in Stuttgart; their title is abbreviated from *Expanded Voice Company*, their repertory word-music whether pitched or unpitched, part-way between recital and theatre. As expected, all three are accomplished singers, expert in patter, gargling and vocal mimicry of all sorts. They play percussion as required, run about, jump athletically and leave no doubt that they enjoy their act and do not take themselves too seriously.

The English title of their programme, *Sound Hubbub*, is less explanatory than the German, which means "Sound Spectacle Dada". The concept of noise as musical material was revived in our century by Luigi Russolo, by the Russian composer Mossolov with his music of machines, and by the Dada movement. From those beginnings, before the First World War, the Trio Exvoco range to John Cage and others in the present day.

The creators of Dada, well represented here, took nonsense as their stock in trade, witness Hugo Ball's singular *Phone Poems* of 1916, "verses without words", as he called them, pure gibberish recited in costume and accompanied by egg-whisk, paper-tearing et cetera, interpreted most efficiently and, in its best number, "Cats and Peacocks" with startling verisimilitude. It was preceded, before the interval, by Filippo Marinetti's "Words in Freedom" of about the same period, a tumultuous and very engaging piece involving a scent spray and electric drill.

Raul Hausmann, a Berlin Dadaist, in 1918 wrote his "Sound Poems", musicaly most sensitive with their contrapuntal textures. The texts, which have their own literal notation, are flashed on a screen in this *show, as is the random score* of Bussotti's "Lettura di Eraibanti", a welcome aid to Hanna Aurbacher's impressive solo performance.

The more recent verbal musicians take themselves too seriously: without pictorial projections, Dieter Schnebel's *Maulwerke* (literally "Gobworks") would soon have palled, though brilliantly executed. The modern works are cleverly chosen, however, though Kurt Schwitters's Sonata in Primitive Sounds of 1923, which ends the recital, is the most musical creation of all, almost a Haydn symphony executed in terms of words, without notes, with a motto-theme, "Rakate Bébé" which promises to stick in my memory.

Eschenbach/Frantz
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Joan Chissell

Before taking over the baton later this week at the Festival Hall, Christoph Eschenbach returned on Sunday afternoon as pianist to play Schubert with his customary partner, Justus Frantz, with one early rarity in the programme that did not find a place in their sesquicentennial-inspired tribute to Schubert as duettist on disc.

This was the Variations in E minor on a French song ("Reposez vous, bon chevalier") which Schubert, barely come of age, dedicated to Beethoven. In his pleasure Beethoven is reputed to have played the work with his nephew, Karl, and not surprisingly. The piece is as arresting in variety of key as in texture, its figuration leaving no doubt that it really was the piano, not the orchestra, through which Schubert was thinking. While respecting its intimacy, the duo revelled in its surprises and contrasts, ravishing the ear with their liquid tone, their subtly balanced textures and their totally natural musical grace.

Whereas here Mr Frantz was primo, in the Grand Duo in C of 1824, and the so-called "Lebenstürme" Allegro in A minor dating from Schubert's last year, Mr Eschenbach took over the top. Not, of course, that it signified any lessening of responsibility for Mr Frantz, for, in the Grand Duo in particular, the thematic interest is equally divided. Again the partnership was exemplary.

Acute listening to each other, on top of intuitive sympathy, resulted in phrasing so closely matched, with the vital thread in the argument so continuously sustained although shared, that the whole performance could have come from one pair of hands. In their fullness of sonority in climaxes they acknowledged that Schubert, in imagination, had transformed the piano into an orchestra. Yet there was no loss of clarity. Always your ear was directed to where it ought to be.

Possibly tension sagged a little in more intimate moments of the Grand Duo's first movement; possibly the Scherzo was over-deliberate. Yet the finale emerged all the more spirited *in consequence*. The *unexpected più lento* towards its end brought some touchingly beautiful, imitative part-playing from Mr Eschenbach. In the "Lebensstürme" both artists were keenly responsive to visionary key surprise. As for the friendlier marches chosen as encores, their melting way with the G major trio of Op 40, No. 2 in G minor will probably haunt all who heard it until they come and play to us again.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

London debuts

Two gifted young violinists, one British and one Dutch, demand pride of place. Of the two, it was Louise Williams, already known as a mmeber of the Endellion Quartet, who provided the riper enjoyment—not least because in Francis Grier she had an equal partner at the piano, like herself prepared to play the whole programme from memory with a totally natural, spontaneous musicianship concealing all interpretative calculation. The warmth and mellow fluidity of her tone and phrasing in sonatas by Beethoven and Brahms were as persuasive as the streak of fantasy she found for Debussy, while Ysaye's second unaccompanied sonata gave proof of her unstrained technical command and control besides the range of colour so important in this *Dies irae*-inspired work.

The partnership of Theodora Geraets, a prize-winner from Holland, and Martijn van den Hoek; seemed a little less mature. In Franck's Sonata, in particular, Miss Geraets needed firmer rhythmic underpinning and stronger tone from the keyboard to help her fill out the more expansive climaxes, just as in both this work and Beethoven's G major Sonata, op 30 (its outer movements taken daringly fast) the phrasing, though full of perceptive detail, needed a sense of direction rather longer lapped. But Pijper's first sonata (1919), left no doubt of Miss Geraets's winning lyricism, while her spirited attack and precise inflection gave Schoenberg's Phantasy strong unity and character.

In their own countries, the week's two pianists habitually combine their platform career with teaching. Of the two, Israel's Arie Vardi was the more successful in making his instrument sing—and speak, too. Music for him was plainly not just a sequence of sounds but a meaningful language. Ben-Zion Orgad's *Reshuyot*, specially written for him in 1978, provided the best outlet for his emotional fervour, erpressed through an impressive range of dynamics and colour. Schubert's last sonata in B flat was also played with an affecting sense of valediction, though sometimes (and especially in the first movement) Mr Vardi was guilty of overloading and over-romanticizing music better left to speak for itself. If a little *over-explicit in the second book* of Debussy's Preludes, too, he nevertheless left no note unturned in his search for expression.

The Brazilian Miriam Ramos was a lady of strong-wristed drive with too little sensibility and finger-tip magic. Even in a programme chosen more for extrovert excitement than deeper searchings she missed opportunities for refinements and subtleties, especially in Chopin's B flat minor Scherzo and F sharp minor Polonaise and Schumann's *Faschingsschwank*. But when exposed to the bolder colours and more pugnacious rhythmic bite of her compatriots Lorenzo Fernandez, Marlos Nobre and Villa-Lobos, she was an advocate to be reckoned with.

Joan Chissell

PARLIAMENT, February 16, 1981

How conditions for buying The Times will be enforced

House of Commons

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, said that in view of the continuing interest in the matter he was publishing a memorandum setting out the material on which he reached his decision to consent to the transfer of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* without a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Mr John Smith, chief Opposition spokesman on trade (*North Lanarkshire, Lab*), questioning Mr Biffen during exchanges after question time, said: The responsibility for not referring this to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission rests on his own shoulders. The substitution for that is the so called guarantees given by the new proprietor about editorial independence and integrity. What sanctions has he to make sure these guarantees are observed in the future?

Mr Biffen: Two of the conditions require changes in the articles of association of the companies concerned in order to safeguard *the* position of the independent national directors and to preserve editorial independence.

The enforcement of these conditions will lie essentially with the 8 shareholders of Times Newspapers and the independent directors. Any breach of the remaining *conditions will be subject* to the criminal sanctions laid down in the Fair Trading Act, 1973.

Mr Jonathan Aitken (Thanet, East, C): Whatever the past disagreements on this issue, since we are now dealing with a fait accompli we could all well wish Mr Rupert Murdoch and the new *management of Times Newspapers* good luck, because they are certainly going to need it. (Laughter.)

Mr Biffen: I think that was underhand bowling up to the best Australian standards. I realize the decision I took was controversial and by the nature of the decision it could not have been otherwise.

I am reinforced by the observations of the deputy editor of *The Times* when he said they were stronger guarantees than they had ever had and he did not think *any other newspaper in the world* had such guarantees.

Mr Geoffrey Robinson (Coventry, North-West, Lab): Would be *make available some detailed fin*ancial information so that the general public unease about the grounds on which he took the decision regarding *The Sunday Times* can be dispelled?

Mr Biffen: There *is* now available to the House the data which was available to me and on which I took the decision.

Mr Peter Bottomley (Greenwich, Woolwich, West, C): Would he take the opportunity now or at some convenient time to deal with one of the basic issues, that of a would-be buyer and seller allowing such a short time that the Monopolies and Mergers Commission could not report in a reasonable time before the deal?

Mr Biffen: He properly identifies *what has been a disturbing* aspect of this whole episode. Whether we can adjust our legislation to overcome that difficulty I do not know. I do not want to make any encouraging comments from this box. I take what he said.

Earlier Mr Barry Sheerman (Huddersfield, East, Lab) had asked Mr Biffen *what plans* he had to improve and strengthen the Monopolies Commission.

Mr Biffen: The Monopolies and Mergers Commission has been *strengthened to perform its new* functions under the Competition Act, and I have just appointed an additional Deputy Chairman. In consultation with the chairman, we shall keep its resources and procedures under review.

Mr Sheerman: Is there not concern in a case like the recent takeover *of Times Newspapers* that this body could not respond in less than 10 to 12 weeks?

Surely now that we have the situation where Mr Murdoch has taken over *The Times*—and that will be a lasting and fitting tribute to the new Secretary of State for Trade—we will see that this timescale will have to be improved in future if this body is to be of any use at all?

Mr Biffen: The speed with which the Commission can work is substantially affected by the amount of evidence it has to consider, and the speed with which that evidence is made available.

In the instance of Times Newspapers, the Commission said that they might take as long as eight weeks to consider the representations to be put before it. I have no reason to doubt their judgment.

Mr Barry Henderson (East Fife, C): Will he consider bringing *shipping cartels within the ambit* of the anti-monopoly legislation, particularly in view of recent evidence that British exporters are suffering a positive disadvantage compared with their German competitors?

Mr Biffen: I note what he has suggested. He will not expect me *to give an immediate* answer.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): Will he consider the monopoly position of the Press Association, which is a monopoly owned by local monopolies ever since the demise of Extel?

I have recently discussed this with the Director General of Fair Trading. Will Mr Biffen make urgent inquiries to see if the Director General is willing to pursue an inquiry so that we can have a free flow of news in this country?

Mr Biffen: I will inquire of the Director General of Fair Trading what is the conclusion of the correspondence to which he has referred.

Mr David Mellor (Wandsworth, Putney, C): There was support in *this House and outside for his* decision not to refer *The Times* take-over to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

It is extraordinary that Mr *Murdoch should be subjected* to such abuse from the other side in taking over a business currently losing £13m a year, thereby protecting hundreds of jobs.

Mr Biffen: I recognize my decision was controversial, and I do not complain one moment of that. I take note of what he so encouragingly *says*.

Mr John Smith, Chief Opposition spokesman on trade: The view expressed by Mr Mellor is a minority view in this House. The *view is widely held that he ought* to have referred it.

Would he, since he substituted for a reference to the Monopolies Commission a set of conditions upon the new proprietor of Times Newspapers, tell us what sanctions he is to apply to the new proprietor if he breaks any of these conditions?

Mr Biffen: There is another question on the order paper devoted specifically to this.

Complaints about advertising content

The majority of complaints the Department of Trade received about the distribution of unsolicited advertising material through the post, was not about the fact that it had been sent unsolicited but about the advertising content, Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, stated.

Mr Alfred Dubs (Wandsworth, Battersea, South, Lab) asked what representations had been received about the distribution of unsolicited advertising material through the post, and **Mrs Oppenheim** (Gloucester, C) replied: We receive a number of complaints about such material.

Mr Dubs: There is concern about organizations like Readers' Digest Ltd who assemble lists of names and addresses and combine the right to purchase goods in this way with the *free entry to prize competitions*. People are unhappy about this stuff coming through the post.

Mrs Oppenheim: The majority of complaints we receive about such material is not about the fact that it has been sent unsolicited but about the advertising content.

The complaints we have received number prominently among them complaints about Readers' Digest. Complaints about Leisure Arts, who gave a mistaken impression that the recipient had won something substantial, and about a company called the Joy of Knowledge. It also gave a mistaken impression about education in this country and implied it was giving a £50 voucher.

A number of them I have referred to the *Advertising Standards* Authority.

What we need to watch carefully is the advertising content.

Mr Toby Jessel (Richmond upon Thames, Twickenham, C): It would be simplest if the public followed the example of MPs and simply put quantities of printed *material which they* do not want into the wastepaper basket.

Mrs Oppenheim: That is true of most people. It is where the content of such unsolicited communications is *misleading* in advertising terms that this gives rise for concern.

Mr Russell Kerr (Hounslow, Feltham and Heston, Lab): She is being much less forward-looking than a previous Conservative Postmaster-General who threw this out *of the window and refused to* countenance the idea of having unsolicited material.

Mrs Oppenheim: A number of committees have sat on the subject since then. We have had the Unsolicited Goods and Services Act, and I am satisfied that the present balance, as long as we keep an eye on the contents, is not unsatisfactory.

HOME NEWS

60 MPs of all parties oppose reduction of increase in pensions

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The Government decision to *proceed with plans to reduce* this year's pensions increase by 1 per cent less than the inflation rate came under fire from all sides of the Commons yesterday.

By last night 60 MPs from all parties had signed an early *day motion urging the Govern*ment to reconsider the decision, and the move was described as "squalid" by Mr Norman Buchan, Labour spokesman on social security.

The decision, first announced in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's November statement, is incorporated in the Social Security Bill, for which a second reading date is *expected to be announced next* week.

The Bill also provides for the raising and index-linking of *fines for social security fraud*, and for the relaxation of sickness benefit rules to allow kidney patients to claim when their incapacity *does not* last for four consecutive days.

The Government argues that a 1 per cent reduction below the inflation rate is necessary for pensions and other benefits because of public spending constraints and because benefits rose last November by 1 per cent more than the inflation rate.

But last November's increase was delayed by two weeks and failed to make good a shortfall the previous year.

The all-party pensioners group in the Commons is concerned that the Bill will further erode the value of pensions. The group is concerned that the increase last November was lower than under previous legislation because it was the first to take prices only as the relevant index, instead of earnings or prices.

Today the group will meet to organize a lobby to persuade the Government to change its mind.

Mr Buchan said last night that the Government would be breaking its promise "at least" to protect pensioners against inflation if the Bill went ahead. It would mean, instead, that "at most" pensioners would have such protection.

"It is a bitter irony that in the Bill that proposes a mean and squalid cutback on pensions the Government proposes to increase fines on so-called scroungers to the level of inflation.

"It means that no pensioner *can ever become better off* and that while the Home Secretary is proposing cuts in sentences for crimes, sentencing for people *caught up in social* security problems will increase."

Consent not required for Bristol Post deal

The proposal by Associated Newspapers to obtain full control of the *Bristol Evening Post* and the *Western Daily Press* did not require the consent of the Secretary of State for Trade, Mrs Sally Oppenheim, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, said when questioned about the proposed takeover.

Mrs Oppenheim (Gloucester, C) stated: The proposed takeover does not require the Secretary of State's consent under the newspaper merger provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973 and the question of a reference under those provisions does not arise.

The Director General of Fair Trading is, however, making the usual investigations to see if the take-over qualifies for reference *under the general merger provisions* of the Act.

If he finds that it does, he will make his recommendation to me in the normal way and Mr Biffen, the Secretary of State will announce his decision as soon as possible.

Mr Arthur Palmer (Bristol, North-East, Lab): Does she appreciate the consternation this answer will give to the readers of these newspapers in Bristol and the workers in the enterprise? Has Mr Biffen forgotten so soon his once-vaunted belief in free competition?

Mrs Oppenheim: I have received no expressions of consternation from any members of the public as far as I am aware. The law as it stands is the law, and this is not a referable reference under the *newspaper mergers provision of* the Fair Trading Act. If it were, Mr Biffen would consider it as such.

Mr Paul Dean (*North Somerset, C*): All who come from the areas served by these two excellent local newspapers greatly value the strong element of local control that exists at present.

Mrs Oppenheim: I also come from the area which is, at least partly, covered by these newspapers, and I have carefully noted his comment.

Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab): A whole new law is necessary on the statutory provisions governing newspaper mergers. The spirit of the 1973 Act, although this does not actually fall under it, was that newspapers are a special case.

This House and the Monopolies Commission should look closely at this, because if case after case is to go through without scrutiny, the public at large will feel we simply do not care about the concentra*tion and monopoly of press in this* country.

Mrs Oppenheim: Questions of consumer and competition legislation are under review from time to time in my department. Obviously, this is among a number of areas to be looked at when this legislation is reviewed.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on trade (Lambeth, Norwood, Lab): Why is a reference not mandatory under section 58? Clearly these papers are economic as going concerns. They are not controlled by Associated Newspapers; they have only three directors out of the eight on the board.

On the face of it, the combined circulation would qualify them to be referred under section 58.

If they are not referable, would she give personal support for a reference under the general merger provisions of the Fair Trading Act?

Mrs Oppenheim: Within the meaning of the Act, Associated Newspapers is already the newspaper proprietor in relation to the newspapers in the *Bristol Evening Post* group, which includes the *Western Daily Press*.

No reference is possible under the Act where the *existing proprie*tor simply increases his control, although this may be a matter for a general reference by the Director General of Fair Trading in the normal way, as opposed to the newspaper merger sections of the Fair Trading Act.

Mr Fraser: Would she reexamine the conclusions she has come to in the light of the facts? There is no mathematical law as to whether somebody controls a company or not.

Mrs Oppenheim: As it stands, Associated Newspapers already own 60 per cent of the shares of *the parent company. I think he will* agree this is tantamount to being in control of it.

Levy on windfall gas profits to reduce corporation's surplus cash

Last year the British Gas Corporation's pretax profits were £425m and within a year or two, without the House's approval of the Gas *Levy Bill, they would rise to over* £1,000m, well in excess of their current needs, Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, said when moving the *second reading of* the Bill.

Mr Howell (Guildford, C) said the Bill provided that for the current year and subsequent years a levy should be payable in respect of gas purchased by the BGC from gas fields or reservoirs on the United Kingdom continental shelf under contracts which were not at present subject to petroleum revenue tax.

It specified the rate of levy for *the three financial years 1980-81* to 1982-83 at one, three and five pence per therm respectively. On the basis of the most recent financial forecasts of the BGC the amounts of levy payable were expected to be about £130m in 1980-81, £420m in 1981-82 and £750m in 1982-83. Post-levy profits *in the current year* were forecast to be in the region of £300m.

Virtually all the gas at present coming from the United Kingdom continental *shelf was supplied* to the BGC by the producers under long-term contracts signed before the oil price explosion, and in *consequence the prices currently* paid reflected prices agreed upon in a different era of cheap energy which no longer existed.

Cheap gas was a rapidly declining asset. New supplies from the more distant northern waters would cost anything up to 10 times the prices originally paid for gas *under the old contracts from the* southern basin of the North Sea.

Prices must reflect the cost of supply on a continuing basis. If they did not follow that principle they ran serious risks.

Demand would grow more rapidly than supply, consumers would switch to gas in a thoroughly misleading belief about prices only to find that in following years the price of gas would jump by percentages that made *anything experienced so far look* small.

These considerations had led the Government to set the BGC a new three year financial target based on the *BGC's and Government's* belief in charging prices based on sensible economic principles. For domestic gas the plan was to move towards the economic level at the rate of 10 per cent a year, over and above the rate of inflation.

It was always recognized that the effect of this policy of economic pricing was bound to result in a period of big windfall profits *accruing to British Gas which con*tinued to benefit from gas supplies from the southern basin on contracts negotiated many years ago.

The purpose of the levy was to transfer this windfall profit from the corporation to the Exchequer, so that the Government and the House were free to decide where the benefit should go.

By removing the unearned windfall the corporation would be left *in a more normal commercial situation, which would help* encourage them to maintain standards of efficiency which might otherwise have been at risk.

The gas levy was not a crude profits tax. It was a charge on the corporation's gas purchases, fixed for three years ahead to cover the period of the current financial target and limited to PRT-exempt gas. Such gas at present comprised the bulk of the corporation's supplies but by the early years of the next decade this proportion *would have* fallen considerably.

The levy would make no difference to what happened to *prices. In reality neither the pur*pose nor the effect of the Bill would be to draw additional monies into the public sector—only into the Exchequer. In the absence of the levy the BGC's surplus cash would continue to be deposited with the national loans fund and continue to bear interest. *It would be wrong to allow such* surpluses to continue to accumulate.

He had agreed with British Gas a revised financial target expressed as an average annual rate of return to be achieved over the period April, 1980, to March, 1983, of 3.5 per cent on net assets valued at current cost.

The corporation's post-levy profits over the three-year period, together with the provision for depreciation, should be sufficient to finance their current major capital investment programme currently under way, aimed at improving gas supplies to industrial and domestic consumers and providing secure supplies to more of those seeking them.

Mr Merlyn Rees, chief Opposition spokesman on energy (Leeds, South, Lab) said that research was necessary now to find alternative *supplies of gas*. The money would have to come from profits and he wanted to see the corporation had sufficient resources for the tasks *they had to perform in the next* two decades.

On paper the Bill was a simple transaction but it was not so simple when it came to pricing on the grounds that the Gas Corporation said one thing and the Government said another.

The levy was *not just revenue; it was money for investment which* might have to be used for a wide variety of industry in the months and years to come.

Sir Hugh Fraser (*Stafford and* Stone, C) said windfall and retroactive taxes were wrong. It was questionable whether when unemployment in the West Midlands was rising faster than anywhere else it was appropriate to impose a burden on the gas industry when prices were already higher than for *their European competitors*.

Domestic prices should be brought into line with industrial prices as the consumer had always *been subsidized by industry in* Britain whether it was in electricity, gas or coal.

Mr Peter Rost, (South-East Derby*shire, C) said the state gas mono*poly had distorted the market by holding down the price of gas as a monopoly supply buyer to a level where the exploration and development of new resources had been made uneconomic.

He had no reservations in supporting the Bill because the Government had had the courage to tackle the problem by introducing policies directed towards realistic energy pricing.

Mr Norman Lamont, *Under Secre*tary of State for Energy (Kingston upon Thames, C) said that recently there had been indications that the *Republic of Ireland* might be prepard to supply natural gas from its resources to Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland had asked the Dublin Government to provide detailed infomration so that an evaluation of the proposal could take place. That was expected to be completed shortly.

The Bill was read a second time by 153 votes to 104—Government majority, 49.

Injuries from fireworks lowest ever

Mrs Oppenheim, Minister for Consumer Affairs, in a written reply, announced that following an even more extensive publicity campaign by the Department of Trade in 1980, the figures for firework in*juries in Great Britain fell* once again and were the lowest ever recorded.

In 1978, 953 persons required hospital treatment (she said). In 1979 there were 745, and in 1980 the number fell to 555.

The number of more serious injuries fell by about 12 per cent and minor injuries by 29 per cent. Injuries to children under 13 fell by almost a quarter.

It is worth noting that following an agreement with *the manufac*turers to reduce the explosive content in bangers, the number of injuries caused by bangers fell by nearly 30 per cent. The number of street incidents also fell significantly.

Peer wants new survey of old mineral workings

House of Lords

In the South-East region alone there were some 26 square miles of past dereliction and over the country as a whole the figure must be several times that, **Lord Nugent of Guildford** (C) said when the Committee stage of the Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Bill was continued.

He moved a new clause requiring the Secretary of State for the Environment to undertake a survey of all known former mineral workings to identify land so altered that it needed remedial action to improve its appearance or to bring it into an acceptable condition for us, and to initiate this remedial *treatment within 10 years of the* Bill receiving royal assent.

Lord Nugent of Guildford said local authorities could not be expected to shoulder the cost of restoration of these areas. The Government would have to pick up the tab. It would be unreasonable to advocate that it should do so at *this time of financial stringency*, but the opportunity should be taken of including in this excellent Bill the intention of carrying out a country-wide survey so that a register could be compiled of all such derelict areas.

Lord Bellwin, Under Secretary for Environment, said the implications of the *proposed* new clause were worrying. Were they so certain about the availability of resources in the next few years that they could commit themselves to starting work on every site within the stated period?

The most careful consideration would be given to this new survey work and officials in the department were ready for discissions to resolve possible problems.

The new clause was withdrawn.

The committee stage was adjourned.

The East Sussex Bill and Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Bill were read the third time and passed.

Plan to use coasts as nuclear waste dumps

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Rock formations on the coasts are being examined as possible alternatives to inland sites for *the disposal* of long-lived, highly active nuclear waste.

A preliminary study requested by the Atomic Energy Authority suggests that a site near the coast could have advantages because the probability of *radioactive* substances leaking into fresh water becomes very small.

If radioactive materials were washed from their *containers* by ground-water entering the waste repository, the contaminated water would be dispersed in the sea. The rate at which active materials might be released has been calculated by the National Radiological Protection Board.

Dr Marion Hill, one of the board's specialists in geophysics, says a number of assumptions are involved in the preliminary calculations because there is no *hydrological* information available about the movement of water through the type of coastal rock formations being considered for high-level waste disposal.

The possible areas with hard rock under review are in Cornwall, Cumbria, the northwestern coast of Scotland, and the Outer Hebrides. They have *been chosen because the form*ation stretches into the sea

A repository would be built about half a kilometre from the coastline, consisting of a shaft 500 metres deep entering an underground cavern the size of a football pitch.

That would hold glass blocks, encased in steel, into which the waste from the nuclear power programme and that created up to the year 2000 could be dumped.

Arson boys jailed for life lose appeals

Two schoolboys started a £100,000 fire at their Sussex school "apparently because they disliked some of the *teachers and they had impend*ing examinations", Mr Justice Glidewell said in the Court of Appeal yesterday.

The offence was carefully planned, the judge added. He was sitting with Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, and Mr Justice Thompson, and he dismissed appeals by the boys aged 15 and 16, against their sentence at Lewes last August to be detained for life.

Mr Justice Glidewell said the sentence did not mean the boys would be detained all their lives. Their progress would be considered by the Home Secretary.

The boys pleaded guilty at their trial to burglary and arson at Lady Margaret School, Ifield, near Crawley, a year ago.

Pressure grows for Bill to help disabled

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Pressure was building up on the Government last night to support the blocked Disabled Persons Bill after 255 MPs, including 42 Conservatives, signed an early day motion supporting it.

Mr Dafydd Wigley, Plaid Cymru MP for Caernarfon, the *sponsor of the Bill, said last* night that he would continue pressing for a second reading on all successive Fridays open *for private members' Bills*.

The Bill would strengthen legislation on access to public buildings for disabled people. Although it is supported by the all-party disablement group and by a wide range of disability organizations, the Bill was blocked when it came up for second reading last Friday because an MP shouted "object".

UK trade with EEC moves into surplus

The United Kingdom's share of trade with the EEC had increased from 30 per cent in 1970 to the present figure of 40 per cent, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State for Trade, said during questions.

Mr David Knox (Leek, C) had asked what was the surplus or the deficit on visible trade *with the* EEC in January and how that compared with the position in January 1980.

Mr Parkinson (*South Hertfordshire, C*) said the figures for January would be announced later. Since the beginning of 1980 our trade *with the* EEC had moved from deficit into surplus.

Mr Knox: Can he confirm he expects a healthy improvement to be shown in the figures for January 1981 compared with January 1980? By how much have exports to the EEC risen since we joined the Community in 1973?

Mr Parkinson: Since *1970 our share* of trade with the Community has grown to 40 per cent from 30 per cent of our trade.

Mr Ronald Leighton (*Newnham, North-East, Lab*): Is not this principally because our exports of oil last year increased from £1,600m to £2,700m and because of the recession we are not importing so much.

In other words, unemployment is working as an effective import control and the underlying imbalance in our trade in *manufactures* has not been affected.

Mr Parkinson: The imbalance in our trade in manufactures has been affected. It has been reduced *considerably* and last year our exports accounted for 90 per cent of our imports as opposed to only 84 per *cent the year before*.

Our trade in oil has increased. I hope he will not try to pretend we should exempt that figure from our balance of payments. We are constantly being told the hardening of the pound based oil has affected our exports of other items. If he wishes to make adjustments for oil, he should make *adjustments to* reflect that fact as well.

Mr Edward Taylor (Southend, East, C): Last year our deficit in *manufactured trade* with the EEC was about £5m a day. Would he be willing to enter into consultation with the Secretary of State for Employment (*Mr James Prior*) to find out what was the impact on jobs in Britain by having a deficit of £5m a day in manufactured trade?

Mr Parkinson: He *is* right about the figure. Mr Taylor ought to accept that it represents a *reduction of about* £2m a day on the *figure of the year before*. He should be careful about arguing that if one has a surplus with an area or a country that this is proof something is wrong. There are a substantial number of areas where we are running a surplus.

Mr John Fraser, an Opposition spokesman on trade (Lambeth, Norwood, Lab): If oil exports to the EEC are running at £3,000m a year, is not the minister concerned about the imbalance in manufac*tures? To what extent is the* present value of the pound responsible for this imbalance?

Mr Parkinson: *I did explain that in 1979 our exports* of manufactures, excluding oil, was about 84 per cent of our imports. Last year the figure was 90 per cent, so there is an improvement in our export of manufactures, excluding oil.

Higher fees blamed for fall in numbers attending adult education classes

A considerable number of people who sought adult education were in danger now of being priced out of that target, Mr Robin Squire (Havering, Hornchurch, C) said *when he opened* a debate calling attention to the importance of adult education and the restraints under which it operated.

He introduced a private member's motion urging local authorities to make appropriate provision in planning the allocation of resources.

Mr Squire said a 17 per cent growth in the numbers involved in adult education in 1978 brought the figure up to over two million. There had been a drop in 1979 and in 1980, largely due to the fees policy.

A survey had shown that where there were substantial increases in fees *there was a corresponding* major reduction in enrolments. In 1980-81 the amount included in the rate support grant for adult education was cut by 25 per cent; over the next three years the cut would average out at about 33 per cent.

There was increasing evidence in different parts of the country that the *spectre of the destruction of* the service was apparent.

Mr Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed, L) *said that as a university* lecturer, he had found that the highest motivation in higher education was that of those people who had been in the world of work and recognized what they needed, *putting to shame many of those* who came in at 18 simply because that was where the escalator had led them, but had no great commit*ment to* the course of education on which they had embarked.

Many local authorities were not even providing remission of fees for people on low incomes or the *handicapped. He was worried by* the rigidity of a system which made it relatively easy to get higher education at 18 and extremely difficult to do so later in life.

Mr William Shelton (Lambeth, Streatham, C) said there should be a statutory definition of adult education.

A person who was illiterate and innumerate was suffering from a handicap as if he was blind or deaf *or dumb. It was a crime for any* school to let any child who had the mental ability to read and write leave that school illiterate and innumerate.

Mr Gwilym Roberts (Cannock, Lab) said that it would be difficult for adult education to recover from the damage which the Government's *policies* were doing to the structure of adult education. There had to be a change of heart by the Government. Ministers had *to fight for the education corner*, and the post-16 corner in particular.

Mr Robert Rhodes James (Cam*bridge, C) said that the figure of* three million adult illiterates in this country was an alarming and disconcerting *statistic*. The *country* faced a remedial task in adult education, which was that of trying to rectify the inadequacies of certain schools and areas.

Mr Derek Foster (Bishop Auck*land, Lab) said* they must make certain that adults were not stopped from joining courses which would be extremely useful just because they did not have the requisite number of A levels or qualifications of any kind. This would create insuperable hurdles.

Mr David Mellor (Wandsworth, Putney, C) said there was room within existing and falling budgets for better provision to be made for adult education if the will to do so was present.

Some local authorities had gone far too far in increasing charges for course.

Mr **Harry Greenway** (Ealing, North), chairman of the all-party committee on adult education, said that disused school buildings should become centres for adult education. Vouchers *should* be made available to the unemployed which would allow them to attend, at no cost, adult education classes.

It had been in many ways a tragic year for adult education with fees going up on average by a third. Enrolments were 10 to 12 per cent down on last year. Some *authorities had put up fees by as* much as 68 per cent.

Mr Keith Hampson (Ripon, C) said *adult and continuing education was* vital for the economic prospects of the country because it was the means of tapping the potential of the people and acquiring the skills and qualifications that would be needed.

Mr Phillip Whitehead, an Opposition spokesman on education, (Derby, North, Lab) said he supported a greater priority for continuing and adult higher education. Exhortations from the department *had all too often gone ignored by* local authorities which had seen, because of the political and financial pressures they faced, a soft *option* in the cutting of adult education.

He had visited the Open University at the weekend and found that, taking this week against the equivalent *of 1980, applications* were 2,400 down and while there had been an 18 per cent drop in *applications* from the north, there *was a 9 per cent increase in appli*cations from the south.

There was a division between those who could pay and those who could not. That should not be the principle of access to adult education.

Mr Neil Macfarlane, Under Secretary of State for Education (Sutton and Cheam, C) said one of the success stories of adult education in recent years had been the drive to remedy illiteracy. Some 70,000 *people each year had reentered* education to receive help.

One area where the Government considered priority needed to be *given was that of literacy* and basic skills. This was indicated by continued support and stimulus for developments through government-financed central agencies.

The Government proposed to maintain in real terms the present level of funding for responsible bodies in adult education.

It was recognized that the Open University made an important contribution to continued education and it still received 85.5 per cent of *its funding from government*.

The debate was adjourned.

Battle over 127 acres of common nears climax

Regional report

Ronald Kershaw
York

The land and general services sub-committee of North Yorkshire County Council will be called on next month to take a decision which could effectively give Lord Halifax the right to farm 127 acres of land which has been a common for *the past 700 years*.

The area, Tillmire Common, lies about a mile from the village of Heslington and the same *distance from the south-eastern* boundary of the city of York. The trustees of Halifax Estate feel able to turn the land to the *plough because of an error by* the owners of common rights on the Tillmire, as it is known, in not registering their rights.

If enclosed, drained and brought into arable use, the common is estimated to be worth between £250,000 and £300,000 and would be added to the 2,000 acres held by the estate in the area.

The estate trustees have indicated their *willingness* to maintain fenced bridle ways and devote 20 acres of the Tillmire to a nature reserve.

The modern story of the Tillmire started in 1965 with the passing of the Commons Registration Act which said all commons and common *rights* must be registered by March 1, 1970.

The Halifax Estate claims ownership of the Tillmire. Heslington Parish Council registered the land as common land but the two holders of common rights, York City Council and a Miss E. V. Smith, of The Maylands, Heslington, failed to register their common rights. Part of the problem was *confusion* over the naming of different parts of the common, which with Heslington Common had been *one common until* 1934 when the Tillmire was separated to permit the establishment of a golf club.

The *mistake was discovered* in July, 1970, and the error pointed out to the registration authority, then East Riding *County Council, but the com*mon rights holders were four months too late and the mistake could not be corrected, despite *the fact that the registration* process of commons was not completed until November, 1970.

A third part of the Registration Act involves the examination of ownership which still has to be enacted.

The Halifax Estate is now claiming that the Tillmire is a common over which there are no common rights and so *it has applied to the registra*tion authority, now North Yorkshire County Council, to have the Tillmire removed from the register of common land.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debates on Opposition motions on absence of effective Government action to prevent closure of Talbot Linwood and on EEC sugar proposals and their effect on United Kingdom refineries and the economies of developing countries.

House of Lords

Today at 2.0: Industry Bill, second reading. Contempt of Court Bill, third reading.

Rate bills

Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, in a written reply, said: Average domestic rate bills in England and Wales (after allowing for rebates) rose from £44.50 in 1970-71 to £182 in 1980-81, an increase of 309 per cent. In the same period the United Kingdom retail price index rose by 265 per cent.

Europe a large base on which to build trade

Membership of the EEC *had led to* a quickening in the trend for the United Kingdom to have a greater share of its total trade with the *Community and a lesser share* with the rest of the world, Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of State for Trade, said during question time.

Mr Eric Deakins (*Waltham Forest*, Walthamstow, Lab) said this trend was, to say the least, a little unfortunate.

The Community (*he said*) *con*sists of industrialized countries and the prospect for industrialized countries within the foreseeable *future is one of rather* slow growth.

Our exporters ought to be directing much more of their attention *to the great* potential in the rest of the world, particularly developing countries, where the prospects for long-term economic growth are much better than in the industrialized countries.

Mr Parkinson: I do not think this an either-or situation. We are inside a market of 270m people with no external tariff against us. This gives a good opportunity for us operating within a large home base to build up our trade.

I see no signs that *British in*dustry is ignoring the rest of the world. Wherever I go in the rest of the world, I see British industry extremely *active in seeking out* new markets.

Mr John Stokes (Halesowen and Stourbridge, C): One of the side effects of our *increasing* trade with the EEC is that there is more European investment in this country. That is a good thing.

Mr Parkinson: He is correct.

Mr Robert Cryer (Keighley, Lab): The reality is that we have shifted *power away from the* United Kingdom Parliament and that the EEC is lethargic about implementing anti-dumping legislation and the multi-fibre *arrangement*. That has all moved to the EEC and the Government cannot take independent action.

The textile and clothing lobby here today is a measure of the anxiety about that because of the continued loss of jobs in those industries.

Mr Parkinson: He is concerned about the state of the textile industry and so is the Government. But it does no good at all to identify the wrong cause of the industry's problems.

The multi-fibre agreement is *administered* here. *We administer* the quotas, monitor them and enforce them. Since we became the Government, we have strengthened the *arrangements in* a variety of ways.

I do not accept that our membership of the EEC is the source of the textile industry's problems. The MFA is in place and doing its job.

Job losses in textiles

Mr Peter Morrison, Under Secretary for Employment, in a written reply, said: Precise information about textile and clothing job *losses and job gains is not avail*able but an indication of the net effect can be seen by comparing the levels of employees in employment at different dates.

Between November, 1979 and November 1980 the provisional *numbers of employees in employ*ment in the United Kingdom in the textiles industries—excluding the production of man-made fibres—and in clothing fell by 99,100 from 731,600 to 632,500.

Rebuilt hospital to open in 1983

Lord Cullen of Ashbourne, a Lord in Waiting, said in a written reply that preliminary site work for repairs at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, London *was in* progress.

He added: Rebuilding is planned to start in June 1981 and it is *envisaged that the hospital will* reopen in its new role in mid-1983. The cost of this development, including equipment, is estimated at £2,700,000 at October 1979 prices, of which £2,400,000 will be met by the Department, and £300,000 by voluntary subscription. The cost of providing any additional services will be met from voluntary funds.

House adjourned, 7.06 pm.

SPORT

Cricket

Croft steps in to make Botham's forecast look a little misguided

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain, Feb 16

Ian Botham's forecast, made on Sunday, that there was unlikely to be a result to this first Test match in 10 days, let alone in five, is looking a little misguided When play closed this evening England, needing 227 to save the follow on, were 159 for seven in reply to West Indies 426 for nine declared.

After a brisk start to their innings, in which Boycott and Gooch both had a hand, England ran into trouble against the fierce pace and unrelenting accuracy of the West Indian fast bowlers, especially Croft. in his 17 overs, in which he took three for 33, Croft bowled a number of balls which, to all intents and purposes, were unplayable. Bowled from wide of the crease, the way they straightened on pitching made them the equivalent of lightning leg cutters.

As I have written before, Croft quite frequently breaks the return crease with his back foot in the delivery stride. By the laws of cricket this is a no-ball, though *for an umpire with a bowler's* front foot to watch it is not easily spotted. Bowling as he does, Croft is a fiendish proposition, and he was faster today than I have ever seen him. Once he had separated Gooch and Boycott England had a struggle to make any runs at all. In the four hours between lunch when they were 45 for no wicket and the finish they scored 114, a good many of which were off the edge.

West Indies declared this morning after an hour's cricket—or, to be more accurate, after the players had been on the field for an hour. The first over, by Dilley, took 20 minutes, repairs having to be made to one of his footholds.

After Dilley's opening over had eventually ended, Emburey came on at the northern end, where behind him it was raining in the hills. His one over cost him 12 runs, Holding driving him magnificently for six. Botham, replacing Emburey, had Holding leg before with a full toss and Garner with a ball of good length—whereupon Roberts, in Botham's third over, hit him for 24, including three huge sixes. Roberts's only other Test 50 was against Australia at Melbourne.

When England went in, the match was entering the fourteenth of its 30 hours. By lunchtime, after 11 overs, they were 45 for no wicket, Boycott 30, Gooch 15. Gooch set the innings going by picking up nine runs off the first over; bowled by Roberts; Boycott, encouraged by this, was soon looking actively for runs.

With Boycott's departure in the second over of the afternoon, batting seemed suddenly more perilous. *It was not only Boycott's* dismissal which was the cause of this; for another three-quarters of an hour Croft bowled devastatingly well and extremely fast. When Richards caught him at third slip Boycott was driving with uncharacteristic vigour. Against Croft, both Gooch and Rose had to hang on for dear life.

Rose had been in for *55 minutes* when; with the drinks trolley waiting to come on, he was caught at forward short leg, pushing out at Garner, the 20 overs of the morning had yielded 105 runs. When Rose was out England, since lunch, had lost two wickets for 18 runs in 13 overs.

At tea Gooch was 32, having scored 11 off his first seven balls and 21 in the next 37 overs. In the fifth over afterwards he had his off and middle stumps removed by Roberts. The particular merit of Gooch's innings was the way he battled on in spite of finding it progressively harder to do so. He batted altogether for three hours five minutes. Richards had had an over or two of gentle off breaks by now, a merciful respite for the batsmen, but Croft was back to greet Miller, batting ahead of Botham and Willey. It took Croft 25 minutes to account for Miller, caught at the wicket at 121.

In Croft's next over Botham was leg before, aiming to hit to leg a ball that was right up to him. After looking for half an hour as though he might be out to any ball, Willey was leg before to Garner, which brought in Downton with 40 minutes left. With 10 to go he was bowled by, of all things, the gentle pace of Gomes. Standing firm through these mounting disasters, Gower batted with the responsibility that has marked his previous innings on the tour and the skill he has always possessed. Coming in at 63 for two he had been batting for three hours when stumps were drawn.

It has been decided that the time lost through rain and the failure of the ground staff to protect the pitch last Thursday night will not now be made up. It was the original intention that it should be, but England were not keen and there was no knowing, anyway, how much time the showers which *fell on Friday morning would* have kept the players off the field. There are therefore two days left in which to get a result, and that should be enough.

WEST INDIES: First Innings

C. G. Greenidge, c Botham, b Emburey	84
D. L. Haynes, c and b Emburey	96
I. V. A. Richards, c Gower, b Miller	29
E. Mattis, c Miller, b Emburey	0
H. A. Gomes, c Downton, b Old	5
*C. H. Lloyd, b Emburey	64
†D. A. Murray, c Botham, b Emburey	46
A. M. E. Roberts, not out	50
M. E. Holding, l-b-w b Botham	26
J. Garner, l-b-w b Botham	4
C. E. H. Croft, not out	4
Extras (l-b 15, n-b 3)	18
Total (9 wkts dec)	426

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—168, 2—203, 3—203, 4—215, 5—257, 6—332, 7—348, 8—383, 9—393.

BOWLING: Dilley, 28—4—73—0; Botham, 28—6—113—2; Old, 16—3—49—1; Emburey, 52—16—124—5; Miller, 18—4—42—1; Gooch, 2—0—3—0; Willey, 3—1—4—0.

ENGLAND: First Innings

G. A. Gooch, b Roberts	41
G. Boycott, c Richards, b Croft	30
B. C. Rose, c Haynes, b Garner	10
D. I. Gower, not out	47
G. Miller, c Murray, b Croft	3
*I. T. Botham, l-b-w, b Croft	0
P. Willey, l-b-w, b Garner	13
†P. R. Downton, b Gomes	4
J. E. Emburey, not out	4
Extras (l-b 4, n-b 3)	7
Total (7 wkts)	159

C. M. Old and G. R. Dilley to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—45, 2—63, 3—110, 4—121, 5—127, 6—143, 7—151.

BOWLING: Roberts, 10—3—36—1; Holding, 11—3—28—0; Croft, 17—4—33—3; Garner, 20—6—34—2; Richards, 7—2—16—0; Gomes, 2—1—4—1.

Umpires: C. Cumberbatch and D. Sang Hue.

Football





Stewart (left) and Archibald: Talented players at opposite ends of the pitch.

Archibald wins over Scots selectors

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Scotland hope to capitalize on the efficient goalscoring of several Football League-based forwards and midfield men when they play their third World Cup qualifying match in Israel tomorrow week. In the competition so far they have scored only once, which was against Sweden last September.

Jock Stein, the Scottish manager, has included the first division's leading scorer Archibald, who has a total of 22 for Tottenham Hotspur, Wark of Ipswich *Town, who has* 19 *and Dalglish* of Liverpool (16). In addition the group of 18 has Gray of Wolverhampton Wanderers and Brazil of Ipswich so there is unlikely to be room for the Manchester United centre forward Jordan, who is in reserve.

Mr Stein will be hoping that his forwards are more effective than in the last goalless draw against Portugal at Hampden Park in October when none of them could break down a stubborn defence. The attack on that day consisted of Dalglish, Gray and Robertson with Gemmill, Strachan and Souness in midfield. For the coming game Strachan is absent because of injury as is the excellent Liverpool central defender. Hansen, whose loss is being felt so acutely by his club. Burley the Ipswich defender, is also unavailable.

The party contains most of the well-established players who have attempted to raise Scotland's morale since the dolorous days of the World Cup in Argentina. Burns, the Nottingham Forest defender, is again brought in, more for his experience than his future, and Gemmill continues to be a part of the system. But there is also the less familiar Dawson, a Rangers defender who suffered a serious head injury when on tour with his club in Canada last year and has made a good recovery.

Stewart, whose strength and vision has been so helpful to West Ham *United, is recognized but,* surprisingly Evans, such a power in Aston Villa's championship effort is only on "standby". Jordan and Hartford are also likely to be left in the departure lounge *unless injuries during the busy* week ahead force Mr Stein into changes.

Although they have a long way to go in the group, from which two qualify for Spain, Scotland require a victory in Israel because *Portugal and Northern Ireland* are now ahead of them. Sweden. qualifiers for the last three World Cup final competitions, have not yet won a game but Israel have drawn three and lost only to Portugal. The Irish were unable to score against them in Israel last year. However, Israel's performance last December in Lisbon when beaten 3—0 perhaps shook their confidence and Scotland should take advantage.

SCOTTISH PARTY: A. Rough (Partick), W. Thomson (St Mirren), D. McGrain (Celtic), R. Stewart (West Ham), A. Dawson (Rangers), F. Gray (Nottingham Forest), K. Burns (Nottingham Forest), W. Miller (Aberdeen), A. McLeish (Aberdeen), D. Narey (Dundee United), J. Wark (Ipswich), G. Souness (Liverpool), A. Gemmill (Birmingham), S. Archibald (Tottenham), A. Brazil (Ipswich), K. Dalglish (Liverpool), A. Gray (Wolverhampton Wanderers), J. Robertson (Nottingham Forest). Standby: J. Leighton (Aberdeen), A. Evans (Aston Villa), J. Jordan (Manchester United), A. Hartford (Everton).

Sir Harold defends ban on sale of alcohol

Sir Harold Thompson, chairman of the Football Association, defended moves to introduce a limited ban on the sale of alcohol at Football League grounds. Sir Harold, writing in the latest issue of *FA Today*, replied to critics who claimed that banning drinks would be an infringement of private liberty.

"There is no intention to deprive those who wish to drink at football matches, but to do so in an orderly fashion," he writes. "Talk about the restriction of private liberty is rubbish if one is dealing with those who do not wish to conduct themselves properly in society and merely destroy the pleasure of the vast majority."

In the same article Sir Harold expressed his fears of a spate of deals similar to the takeover of Crystal Palace by the former Wimbledon chairman Ron Noades. "I am seriously worried about these developments. We must not let football and its clubs become a sort of financial business market. People who get involved in these deals might lose sight of the game itself and their actions might lead to the loss of grounds and the stripping of club assets."

In the same issue of *FA Today*, Ted Croker, the Secretary of the FA, said that clubs would not have to use players as "mobile *billboards*" *if the* Government did not take so much money out of the game." People in government have suggested that advertising on players' clothing is undignified and they would sooner not see it and that it should not be allowed on television," Mr Croker writes.

"But whilst the government, through the pools tax and VAT, suck money out of football, they can hardly be critical of clubs who look to other means of increasing revenue."

Although last week's meeting of league chairmen agreed to abide by the current agreement with the television companies, which bans shirt ads in televised games, Mr Croker sees a fresh controversy looming if shirts ads are permitted in the European Cup competitions. He believes it could lead to top British sides' European games being blanked off the screens. The answer, Mr Croker says, is for the government to be less greedy when it comes to football.

Tottenham reap benefit from the bad luck of two Cup outsiders

By Norman Fox

As if there was only just room for an outsider, the name of Exeter City was withheld until last in yesterday's draw for the FA Cup sixth round, to be held on March 7. Ten teams remain in this 100th competition that began with 475. All but two are in the first division, although the draw offered no persuasive clue to the ultimate contenders at Wembley on May 9.

Exeter's chances of reaching the last eight are still blocked by Newcastle United, whom they meet in a fifth round replay tomorrow, but if successful they play their fifth away tie, this time at Tottenham where there is confidence in the air, partly because the year ends in a one and Spurs won the FA Cup in 1901, 1921, and 1961 as well as the League Cup in 1971. At least Exeter and Newcastle know that their prospective opponents have a generous nature in the goalmouth in two of the sharpest finishers of their own, Crooks and Archibald. Tottenham incidentally, have not left London in 13 successive cup ties.

The remaining three ties are all first division, with one, Nottingham Forest v Ipswich Town, inviting the keenest attention. Forest, under the stewardship of Brian *Clough and Peter Taylor*, have not yet won the FA Cup and after failing to take the so called "world club cup" in Tokyo and being 10 points behind Ipswich in the first division, much personal pride is at stake.

Ipswich are converging on the double and even though they must now play away, they should go to *the City ground with faith in* themselves, having beaten Forest 2—1 there in a league game last November. They also won the home game 2—0 last month. Even with Francis recovered Forest are living uncertainly. Several players are likely to be replaced at the end of the season, if not before.

Ipswich, who are now more optimistic that their outstanding Dutch midfield player Thijssen, will remain with them for at least another season, are the better *balanced side but will have to* beware the special encouragement that Mr Clough can provide his players when the occasion is really important. The affair in Tokyo was not one of those days.

Yesterday Mr Clough emphasized a desire to compensate for comparative lack of success this *season by playing at Wembley* and he thought that Forest were unlucky to have lost to Ipswich at home.

While Tottenham and Ipswich may appear *to offer* the most attractive final, some instinct suggests that Middlesbrough, who have never ventured beyond the sixth round, are at last following well-defined lines. They began by scoring five goals at Swansea and then beat West Bromwich Albion and Barnsley at home. They are again favoured with a home tie against Wolverhampton Wanderers and they beat them 2—0 at Ayresome Park in November, although last month they lost 3—0 at Molineux.

Reading too deeply into league form can be misleading and while Wolves are playing more effectively in the cup than in the league they are likely to experience defensive difficulties against a Middlesbrough team now offering varied and skilful football.

Having lost to Liverpool in the semi-final round of the League Cup, Manchester City may have to go to Everton, where Arsenal *and Liverpool have been* eliminated from the FA Cup and where tomorrow Southampton replay a fifth round tie that was goalless on Saturday. Alternatively, a visit to the Dell would be no easier. John Bond, the new City manager, has done marvellously well so far but it would be expecting too *much to expect him to lead them* to Wembley as well as away from the doors of relegation which not long ago were wide open. He confessed yesterday that the draw was "disheartening". Hardly overflowing with confidence he said City had a chance but he had hoped for a luckier draw.

This 100th FA Cup lost its romance too early and it seems that the semi-final round is destined to be exclusively first division. Home advantage was a strong influence over the fifth round and is widely expected to determine the outcome of three ties in the sixth. Only faith with a fancy *surviving* three earlier rounds encourages a thought that Nottingham Forest will complete a full house of home wins.

FA Cup, sixth round draw

Middlesbrough v Wolverhampton Wanderers.
Nottingham Forest v Ipswich Town.
Southampton or Everton v Manchester City.
Tottenham Hotspur v Newcastle United *or Exeter City*.
Matches to be played on March 7.

Baker ready to climb the mountain

Graham Baker, an England under-21 international, stands by to replace the injured Nick Holmes in Southampton's midfield for today's FA Cup *fifth* round replay at Everton. Baker missed Saturday's goalless draw with a thigh strain but is back in full training and has been added to the squad. Holmes is doubtful after bruising his calf on Saturday.

Everton have McMahon available after suspension and his return in midfield would allow Gidman to revert to full back if Bailey does not recover from a hamstring strain. The manager, Gordon Lee, warned against complacency and said: "If any of the players think they have finished the hard part and it will be plain sailing, they have it completely wrong. I did not even *listen to the draw and* I am not thinking about Manchester City—all I am thinking about right now is Southampton".

In the other replay, tomorrow, the third division club, Exeter City, are full of confidence that they can add Newcastle United's scalp to Leicester City's at St James' Park. "If we can produce the form that saw off Leicester, we'll beat them," the manager, Brian Godfrey, said. He has a full-strength squad. Newcastle hope to be unchanged.

Hilaire's return consoles a weakened Palace

Ipswich Town can open a two-point lead over Aston Villa at the top of the first division if they win their home game in hand tonight against Middlesbrough. Ipswich, unbeaten at home since October, 1979, may be without their striker Brazil, who is struggling to overcome an ankle injury and chest infection. But Mills, who has missed the last two matches with a calf strain, is ready to return at right back and Wark and Mariner are expected to have recovered from leg injuries. O'Callaghan is standing *by to deputize for Brazil.*

Middlesbrough are one of the few teams to have beaten Ipswich this season. They won 3—1 at Ayresome Park in the League Cup second round, only to lose the second leg 3—0 at Portman Road. Middlesbrough's manager, John Neal, fields the team who beat Barnsley in the FA Cup.

Crystal Palace play their first home match under Dario Gradi against Coventry City, beaten twice in London in cup games in the past week. With Cannon, Gilbert and Lovell suspended, Francis unfit and Barron recovering from a knee operation, Palace are well below full strength. However, Hilaire has recovered from a back injury and returns to the attack after missing three games. Fry replaces Barron in goal. Dare, aged 20, will make his first appearance for the first team as a central defender, partnering Nicholas, who moves from midfield. Coventry may try to plug defensive gaps by bringing back Jones, who has played only two first team games this season.

Manchester United will be on trial before their own supporters against Tottenham Hotspur in another rearranged league match. United's manager, Dave Sexton, with only a Uefa Cup place to aim at, recalls Wilkins and McIlroy to midfield, dropping Thomas and moving Duxbury to centre half. Tottenham have a doubt about Crooks, who has a knee injury, and Falco stands by. Tottenham are unbeaten in their last 10 games.

Charlton Athletic will regain the third division leadership if they get a point at Burnley, but they will be without their defender Berry, whose run of 91 consecutive league and cup matches has been ended by a broken nose.

Yesterday's results

Four division

Stockport (0) 4 Torquay (0) 1
Sword (pen) Cox
Coyle 1,431
Sherlock
Bradd

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham 2, Bangor City 0; Nuneaton Borough 1, Maidstone United 1.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland division: Kidderminster 2, Enderby Town 1.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Harrow Borough 0, Hitchin Town 4. First division: Wokingham Town 1, Camberley 1.

OTHER MATCH: Army XI 3, Chelsea XI 0.

SCHOOLS MATCH: English Trophy, quarter-final round: High Wycombe 2, Brierley Hill and Dudley 0.

Stockport can smile again

Stockport 4 Torquay 1

Stockport County scored their first goals in five matches in beating Torquay United last night before their lowest ever crowd of 1,431. All the goals came in the second half but it took a fifty-second minute penalty from Sword to end the Stockport famine.

Torquay had taken the lead two minutes earlier when Fell crossed for Cox to score from 12 yards. Coyle put Stockport ahead in the seventy-fifth minute, Sherlock, a full back, rammed in the third four minutes from time and Bradd completed the scoring

Wilkins named in European squad

Berne, Feb 16.—Ray Wilkins, of Manchester United, is the only British representative in the European squad of 16 to play Italy in Rome on February 25 in aid of the victims of last November's earthquake in southern Italy. Keegan and Sansom were unavailable.

EUROPE PARTY: L. M. Arconada (Spain), J. Zamora (Spain), R. Krol (Netherlands), Nehoda (Czechoslovakia), H. Schumacher (West Germany), M. Kaltz (WG), B. Pezzey (Austria), Hansi Müller (WG), H. Hrubesch (WG), R. Botteron (Switzerland), R. Wilkins (England), J. A. Camacho (Spain), N. Stojkovic (Yugoslavia), E. Gerets (Belgium), V. Halihodzic (Yugoslavia), A. Simonsen (Denmark).—Agence France-Presse.

Tennis

McEnroe's patience is rewarded

Boca Raton, Florida, Feb 16.—John McEnroe celebrated his *twenty-second birthday a day early* when he rallied to defeat Guillermo Vilas 6—7, 6—4, 6—0, in the final of a $300,000 tournament here. The New Yorker fought back from a 1—3 deficit in the second set to win only his second tournament on clay since turning professional in 1977. He was clearly superior in the third set that brought the three-hour and five-minute duel to a conclusion.

McEnroe had qualified for the championship yesterday by beating Brian Teacher, the Australian Open winner. Vilas won a three-set semi-final against Vitas Gerulaitis, who was a late substitute for Bjorn Borg, who withdrew *because of a respiratory infection.* Borg had won this title for the last four years.

McEnroe, who lost in the first round in this tournament in 1979 and 1980, received $150,000 for his winning effort. This week McEnroe and Borg are due to compete in a series of exhibitions in Australia.

The final was a surprising one in that McEnroe proved the more patient player at the baseline against an unusually aggressive Vilas. "I had the opportunity to win in the second set, but John played some risky points and got away with it", Vilas said.

Their previous record favoured Vilas, who had won six out of nine meetings and had a 3—1 edge on clay. The 28-year-old Argentine appeared to lose his power as the match wore on

McEnroe felt that the turning point was his ability to come back in the second set. Four errors, three of them unforced, gave McEnroe a service break in the fifth game, and he *gained* a 5—4 lead after losing three break points. A backhand shot that flew over the baseline gave McEnroe the decisive ninth-game break.

It was no contest in the third set as McEnroe played with confidence despite continued heckling from a capacity crowd of 11,300 who clearly supported his opponent. "It was the best he has ever played on clay against me", observed Vilas.

Miss Jaeger too steady for Miss Wade

Andrea Jaeger, the 15-year-old American, played a steadier game than Virginia Wade, 20 years her senior, to win the final of a $125,000 tournament in Oakland, California, 6—3, 6—1. In the doubles final Miss Wade and Martina Navratilova, the No 2 seeds, lost to Rosie Casals and Wendy Turnbull, the No 1 seeds, 6—1, 6—4.

Miss Jaeger's win was worth $24,000 and boosted the Illinois schoolgirl's 1981 earnings to $91,000. Her victory took 75 minutes. *After two tough earlier* matches—she had to come from behind to beat Britain's Sue Barker, 3—6, 6—0, 6—1, in the quarter-final round and Miss Turnbull, 3—6, 7—5, 6—0, in the semi-final round—Miss Jaeger's win in the final seemed refreshingly easy.

Boxing

Commonwealth tilt for Jones

The British welterweight champion, Colin Jones, will meet Mark Harris, of Georgetown, Guyana, over 15 rounds for the vacant Commonwealth title at Wembley conference centre on Tuesday, March 3.

Harris, unbeaten in four fights during 1980, will arrive in London on February 25, with his trainer, Lennox Beckles.

NASHVILLE: Amateur international: United States 6, Kenya 5.

Badminton

BAE help themselves to a national training centre

By Richard Streeton

Work on a national training centre has started at the Milton Keynes headquarters of the Badminton Association of England. Only two years ago the association were so short of money that they had to incur an overdraft to pay their staff's salaries. Now they have shown the way to several sports, including athletics, football, rugby and tennis, by implementing the £90,000 first stage of what will eventually be a £250,000 development.

The Sports Council, always willing to help those who help themselves, have provided a £45,000 grant towards the first part of the plan, which by July will provide a three-court purpose-built training hall, with all the necessary off-court facilities. The BAE are finding the rest of the money. In two or three years the development will be extended to include further changing rooms and residential accommodation for weekend training parties, followed later by conference and library facilities, including an area for showing coaching films.

Ian McCallum, vice-chairman of the Sports Council, said that he only wished others would follow the excellent example of the Badminton Association. "We have been most impressed by the way this association have acted quickly. Their decisive efforts, their planning, determination and drive have *all been highly commendable.*" Mr McCallum, speaking in the presence of England's world doubles champions, Nora Perry and Jane Webster, said that he felt it was the right policy to provide the best facilities for the top players. "The more champions you have the more encouragement it is to others, and the better the sport's standard will be in this country."

Larry Lamb, the BAE's chief executive, repeated the view that English sporting bodies had to do more than rely on the twin crutches of sponsorship and Sports Council grants. "We have been seen by the Sports Council to be pulling ourselves up by our boot strings; we believe we have been setting a good example."

The BAE's national fund raising campaign for the £45,000 they need towards the training hall (which has already been started) includes contributions from county associations, raising the national registration fee to 75p per player from the 20p imposed two years ago, and the raffling of a Mini Metro, which alone will raise £10,000. The car, which has been provided by British Leyland through Henlys, of London, will be driven onto the courts and raffled at Wembley at the end of next month's All-England championships. Answering questions Mr Lamb said the *BAE had about 130,000 affiliated* players. "We are now looking into the question very thoroughly of how to get what you might term the 'missing million' to contribute."

Meanwhile Indian officials last night were trying to contact Prakash Padukone, their All-England title holder, at his home in Copenhagen to try to persuade him to play for India against England at Stoke this evening (6.30). This is the third international of a five-match series, sponsored by Crest Hotels. India are already 2—0 down and feel that Prakash's help in singles and doubles could help them avoid defeat and keep the series alive. Prakash originally said that he did not wish to play until the fourth and fifth matches in Huddersfield on Thursday and Gloucester on Sunday.

England will complete the series without their national champion, Ray Stevens, although he has better news of the injured ankle that has troubled him off and on since last October. A specialist has decided that no operation will be necessary. A special appliance will be built into Stevens's shoe to provide an "arch" for the foot. This will provide rest and help the muscle tears to mend.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

FA CUP: Fifth round replay: Everton v Southampton (7.15).

FIRST DIVISION: Ipswich Town v Middlesbrough: Crystal Palace v Coventry City; Manchester United v Tottenham Hotspur (7.45).

SECOND DIVISION: Oldham Athletic v Wrexham.

THIRD DIVISION: Burnley v Charlton Athletic.

SCOTTISH CUP: Fourth round replay: Clydebank v Kilmarnock.

WELSH CUP: Fifth round: Shrewsbury Town v Hereford United.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: First Leg: Basingstoke v Bognor Regis. Midlands: Bedworth v Bridgend; Corby v Bedford; Stourbridge v Bromsgrove. Southern: Hastings v Canterbury; Hillingdon v Tonbridge; Hounslow v Salisbury.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Netherfield v Marine.

FA YOUTH CUP: Fourth round replay: Orient v Birmingham (7.0).

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Kingstonian v Lewes. Second division: Harwich and Parkeston v Barton Rovers. League Cup: Fourth round: Bishops Stortford v Tooting and Mitcham; Hayes v Hungerford; Slough v Enfield; Walthamstow Avenue v Croydon.

OXFORDSHIRE SENIOR CUP: Third round: Oxford City v Morris Motors.

HERTS SENIOR CUP: Quarter-final round: Barnet v Hemel Hempstead.

LONDON SENIOR CUP: Second round replay: Barking v Uxbridge.

MIDDLESEX CHARITY CUP: Semi-final round: Hendon v Wealdstone.

HOCKEY: Representative match: Cambridge University v Army (at Fenners).

BADMINTON: England v India (at Stoke-on-Trent).

Rugby League

Fate's hand takes Murphy back to face his old club

By Keith Macklin

One of those draws which seem to have been made by a scheming fate takes Leigh to Salford in the second round of the Challenge Cup, sponsored by Three Fives, on Saturday week. Leigh are at present managed by the volatile Alex Murphy, who left Salford in November. Consequently it will *be a cup tie and a half* at The Willows, with extra piquancy being added by the fact that Kevin Ashcroft, who replaced Murphy as Salford coach, has played and coached with Murphy at Leigh and Warrington.

Another outstanding game brings together Widnes, who hit Doncaster for 50 on Sunday, and Castleford the attractive West Yorkshire side. Both teams have been tipped to go to Wembley, and although home advantage favours Widnes, Castleford will put up a tremendous fight in what looks potentially the most attractive open tie.

Warrington and Hull Kingston *Rovers, the two leading sides in* the bookmakers' lists, have been favoured by the draw. Although Warrington were given an unexpectedly hard game at Bramley, they can hardly be said to be unduly extended by a visit to Dewsbury, the second division club. Indeed the portents so far are that Warrington are on their way to a third major trophy.

Hull Kingston Rovers have drawn the free scoring second division leaders, York, and with home advantage will expect to advance into the last eight. However, York play good, open rugby, and Rovers have proved vulnerable at home several times this season.

Another lively inter-county battle is at St Helens, where Hull are the visitors. The other Humberside outfit are looking to reach Wembley for the second successive year along with their rivals from across the river, and they will take heart from the fact that St Helens were thoroughly unimpressive in winning at Huddersfield.

Victory could go either way in the all-first division games involving Oldham and Workington Town and Wakefield Trinity and Halifax. Both have a close look about them, but Featherstone Rovers, famous cup fighters, must fancy their chances of progress against Keighley of the second division.

DRAW: Dewsbury v Warrington; Hull K.R. v York; St Helens v Hull; Salford v Leigh; Oldham v Workington; Widnes v Castleford; Featherstone v Keighley; Wakefield v Halifax. Ties to be played on February 28 and March 1.

Rugby Union

World gathers under presidential banner

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

The President of the Welsh Rugby Union, Cliff Jones, has gathered together an exciting combination to play for his XV against Wales, in Cardiff on April 25, in the last of the big matches celebrating their centenary season. Bill Beaumont, captain of England and the British Lions, leads a side drawn from the seven remaining countries represented on the International Board. There are three from New Zealand and two from each of the others, who all supply one reserve to maintain as nice a balance as possible.

The New Zealand representatives are Loveridge, at scrum half, Haden at lock and Shaw at flank forward. Shaw had a magnificent game in an outstanding loose forward trio when the All Blacks beat *Wales in November. No doubt he* was invited after New Zealand's captain, Mourie, had declared himself unavailable. Louw, the Springbok, has been chosen at No 8, with Rives, the French captain, on the other flank.

Loveridge's partner at half back will be Mark Ella, the brilliant young Australian who, with his two brothers, *had the wires humming* when touring here with their schools' side several years ago. Another Australian, Moon, who was here with Queensland in the autumn, will be on the right wing to give us a further foretaste of what we can expect from the back play when the Wallabies tour these islands next season.

"It is a pleasant touch on the President's part to invite Bertranne to play inside Moon at centre. The most honoured of all French backs will equal Dauga's record of 50 caps for his country if he plays in their last two championship matches. The other half of the three-quarter line will be all Scottish, in the persons of Irvine and Johnston, who played throughout the last championship and is now having to work hard *to recapture his place in the* centre from Robertson after recovering from a hamstring injury.

At forward, where sadly there is no place for the Irish captain, Slattery, the most capped of all flankers, his country supplies the two props, Orr and Fitzpatrick. The *hooker* is Wheeler, who won the first of his 25 caps in 1975, *just after* Beaumont had first appeared in an England jersey

Still on matters pertaining to the principality, the promising stand-off half, Slater, who recently moved from Blackheath to London Welsh, has established himself so rapidly in new colours that his latest club has been able to move Richard Owen, also *highly* regarded at Old Deer Park, into the centre. Slater, who was born in England of Welsh *parents*, will *play* his third senior game in a scarlet jersey when Leicester come to town on Saturday morning (11.30).

Recent references to those few who have achieved in post-war years the unusual double of Blues for rugby and hockey have sparked off a letter from Mr J. C. Marshall, at Rugby School, who suggests that I. P. Campbell, now headmaster of King's College, Auckland, might be worthy of comment, too. Indeed he is.

At Oxford, Campbell won cricket and hockey Blues, and there seems little doubt that had he trained a bit more assiduously, he would have got one for rugby as well. As it was, he played in *due course at stand-off half on* the senior side in a Scottish trial, but suffered a serious injury which ended his rugby career.

PRESIDENTS' XV: G. Pienaar (South Africa); B. J. Moon (Australia), R. Bertranne (France), D. Johnston (Scotland), A. R. Irvine (Scotland); (New Zealand); P. Orr (Ireland), M. Ella (Australia), D. Loveridge P. Wheeler (England), M. Fitzpatrick (Ireland), W. G. Beaumont (England, captain), A. Haden (New Zealand), J-P. Rives (France), R. Louw (South Africa), M. Shaw (New Zealand).

REPLACEMENTS: M. Slemen (England), A. Slack (Australia), J. Robbie (Ireland), C. Deans (Scotland), R. Paparemborde (France), L. Moolman (South Africa).

England training: England completed their preparations for the Calcutta Cup game against Scotland at Twickenham with an hour *of training at Stourbridge yesterday* evening, the Press Association reports. The coach, Mike Davis, reported no injuries afterwards.

England's latest recruit, Huw Davies, is a product of the Stourbridge club and their first player to gain England honours.

Squash rackets

Jahangir's brilliance looms over Hunt

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

The astonishing talent of Jahangir Khan, aged 17, illuminated an absorbing final of the Prodorite tournament at Edgbaston last evening. The Pakistani beat Gamal Awad 9—6, 9—4, 9—4, but took 73 minutes to *do it*; because although the bouncy little Egyptian was slightly outclassed he was never outplayed until the *last* game. In *the women's final* Vicki Hoffmann (Australia), the best player in the world, won 9—6, 9—5, 9—1 in 27 minutes against Elizabeth Brown, 15th in the British rankings, whose inexperience of such big occasions made her a little excited and inconsistent.

Jahangir is an engaging young man whose court manners are, by today's erratic standards, exemplary. In this and in other ways he is an exciting throwback to his great forebears, Hashim, Azam, and Jahangir's father, Roshan. Jahangir is playing as if the last 20 years never happened; as if, by some natural evolutionary process, it is inevitable that the game should be dominated by one of those Pathans who came down from the mountains to play squash with British officers in the garrisons of the North-West Frontier.

Geoff Hunt, the world champion, will be 34 when he defends his British title at Bromley in April. He has managed to keep the rest of the Pakistanis at bay, but *Jahangir looks a more serious* threat. He plays brilliantly as if there were no other way to do it, as if squash was the most natural form of expression. The maturity and facility of his game makes the difficulties of anticipation, court coverage, technical dexterity, and tactical subtlety seem child's play. *Jahangir's sudden variations* in the pace and direction of his shots are disguised with such superb wrist work.

Jahangir's ability to guide high volleys to that inch of wall above the tin was uncanny. Awad, too, hit many winning nicks with his cross-court service returns. He was the less imaginative, the more inhibited in his tactics. But when giving his all in terms of concentration, discretion and energy, Awad came back from 0—6 to 6—6 in the first game and held on almost as long in the second. Then Jahangir won 12 points out of 13 for the match.

They created some dazzling patterns, long rallies, and much competitive tension. This compensated for a woman's final in which Miss Hoffmann, tactically smart ad technically sound except for a few loose forehands, doggedly resisted two bold challenges. In the first game Mrs Brown recovered from 1—5 to lead 6—5 and in the second she led 5—0 (an impertinence punished by a series of telling drops). *Mrs Brown* played some admirable volleyed drops and never looked out of her depth except in terms of experience. Her nerves are not yet tuned to such occasions and sometimes this affected her game. But that was the only area in which Mrs Brown occasionally looked a little green.

For the record

Football

Leading goalscorers

FIRST DIVISION: S. Archibald (Tottenham), 23; J. Wark (Ipswich), 19; G. Shaw (Aston Villa), 17; G. Crooks (Tottenham), 16; K. Dalglish (Liverpool), 16; J. Fashanu (Norwich), 16; S. Moran (Southampton), 16; P. Mariner (Ipswich), 16.

SECOND DIVISION: D. Cross (West Ham), 20; M. Harford (Newcastle, 16 for Lincoln), 16; C. Lee (Chelsea), 16; D. Moss (Luton), 16; M. Pookett (Watford), 16; B. Stein (Luton), 16.

THIRD DIVISION: A. Kellow (Exeter), 25; D. Kemp (Plymouth), 25; D. Hales (Charlton), 21; A. Birch (Chesterfield), 19; R. Moore (Rotherham), 18; G. Davies (Fulham), 17.

FOURTH DIVISION: R. Cooke (Peterborough), 21; A. Cork (Wimbledon), 20; J. Lumby (Mansfield, 18 for Tranmere), 20; S. Phillips (Northampton), 18; D. Spence (Southend), 17; G. Hobson (Lincoln), 17.

LA PAZ: World Cup, South American Group One: Bolivia 3, Venezuela 0.

Cycling

MILAN: Six-day race, second day: 1, M. Argentin (Italy) and G. Frank (Denmark), 24 pts. One lap behind: 2, R. Hermann and H. Schutz (WG), 50 pts; 3, U. Hempel (WG) and H. Hindelang (Switzerland), 36; 4, F. Moser (Italy) and P. Sercu (Belgium), 40; 5, V. Algeri (Italy) and W. Peffgen (WG), 28; 6, D. Clark and D. Allan (Australia), 24.

Cricket

PRETORIA: South African Currie Cup: Eastern Province 264 and 208 for 5 dec. Northern Transvaal 198 and 179. Eastern Province won by 95 runs.

FAISALABAD: Board of Cricket Control of Pakistan 247 for 7 (S. Abbas 77 not out, M. Rana 60, [illegible] May 5 for 78), Australia under 25 55 for 2.

Cresta run

SENIORS CUP (handicap for over-50-year-olds): 1, W. B. Thompson (US); 2, C. W. Harris (Australia); 3, R. C. Cowell (US); 4, W. V. Latscha (Switzerland); 5, A. J. Cavendish (GB).

Cresta Run

JOHANNES BADRUTT TROPHY (handicap) (Swiss unless stated): 1, U. E. Schwarzenbach, 161.03; 2, P. C. Albers-Schoenbergeh, 161.30; 3, P. Latscha, 163.14; 4, R. C. Meyerhofer, 163.22; 5, O. von Graffenried, 163.42; 6, M. Melcher, 163.67. British placings: 8, M. A. Innes; 10, J. W. A. Woodall; 12, J. R. A. Freeland.

GRAND NATIONAL: 1, P. G. Gansser, 163.62; 2, P. C. Latscha, 165.58; 3, N. Baracchi, 166.34; 4, G. Saratz, 171.01; 5, C. Tesdorpf (WG), 171.16; 6, N. Bibbia (Italy), 171.8[illegible]; 7, C. von Graffenried, 173.11; 8, R. Hess, 175.51.

Speed skating

OSLO: World championships: 1, K. Stenshjemmet (Norway) 38.[illegible]; 1,500 metres: 2, A. Sjobrend (Norway), 1min 58.16sec; 3, [illegible] (GB), 43.76; 5,000 metres: P. Kleine (Netherlands), 7min 16.17sec; 10,000 metres: 1, S. Berezin (USSR), 14min 51.33sec. Placings after four races: 1, A. Sjobrend (Norway), 167.[illegible]; 2, K. Stenshjemmet (Norway), 167.887; 3, J. E. Storholt (Norway), 168.374.

Ski jumping

SAPPORO: 1, A. Kogler (Austria), 259.3 pts (111.5 and 108 metres); 2, O. Bremseth (Norway), 253.1 (107, 112); 3, H. Neuper (Austria), 245.[illegible] (107.5, 105.5); 4, H. Bulau (Canada), 239.6 (106.5, 105); 5, H. Wallner (Austria), 238 (102, 103); 6, J. Saetre (Norway), 235.6 (102, 101). World Cup standings (after 10 events): 1, Kogler, 165 pts; 2, Neuper, 118; 3, Rund, 131; 4, Bergerud, 106; 5, Wallner, 87; 6, Saetre, 77.

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SPORT

Rowing

Two crews likely to be in the shade

By Jim Railton

The Oxford University President, Chris Mahoney, will announce tomorrow his nine for the Boat Race on April 4 (1 pm), sponsored by Ladbrokes. Mahoney will be pleased to get this off his chest for the press has selected and announced his crew for him on two occasions at least this year.

The main interest will not centre on the selected eight but the ninth seat, with the expected confirmation that Susan Brown, aged 22, will steer Oxford and become the first woman ever to compete in the Boat Race.

She showed, coxing Oxford over the weekend against London University, that she is very tough and she cut up London University rather badly at least once. She was also quick to close the door on her opponents.

Miss Brown will be required to improve her Tideway etiquette in some of the duels that lie ahead. It will be interesting to see her against the former London University coxswain, Jeffries, who will hold the rudder strings of the British lightweight eight in their fixture against Oxford in two weeks' time.

Willie Almand, a veteran sculler, was rowing innocently ahead of the two advancing eights and would have been ground down but for the London University cox torpedoing into Oxford's blades to avoid the sculler. Miss Brown should have given quarter but she did not and was cool throughout.

Oxford were impressive and, as they should do at this time of the year, mastered London. They have an imposing line-up of mature oarsmen: Mahoney won an Olympic silver medal and he is backed by five resident Blues with no freshmen in the crew.

In Bland, at stroke, Oxford have what appears to be an ungainly leader when the crew paddle. His long body produces a pronounced crouch forward but the leverage is effective and, when they decide to race the rhythm is surprisingly smooth after only two weeks.



Mahoney: first with the latest.

Cambridge postponed a weekend's workout with the British lightweight eight at Ely with their stroke, Philips, sustaining a leg injury. At present three of Cambridge's Blues are in the bows of the boat with two Goldie oarsmen, Clark and Stephens, in the engine room. Somehow I suspect Cambridge will be content to keep a low profile for a while. In fact, if Miss Brown is selected for the Oxford crew, 16 Boat Race oarsmen could be scheduled for back seats this year as far as the media is concerned. Recent crews:

OXFORD: *P. J. Head (Hampton and Oriel), [illegible] (Hampton and Oriel), *R. P. Yonge (UCH and New College), R. P. Emerton (Abingdon and Christ Church), *S. [illegible] Rankov (Corpus and St Hugh's), *C. J. Mahoney (Radley and Oriel), *M. D. Andrews (Abingdon and Oriel), J. L. Bland (King Edward VI, Stratford and Merton), Elaine S. Brown (Hinkley and Wadham) cox.

CAMBRIDGE: N. P. Cowle (Cheltenham GS and Fitzwilliam), *M. Panter (Kingston GS and LMBC), *J. Baart (Shrewsbury and Caius), *A. Dalrymple (Eton and Downing), *J. Palmer (Eton and Pembroke), M. J. Clark (Shrewsbury and Downing), R. J. Stephens (King's College School and Emmanuel), *G. Philips (City of London and Jesus) stroke, J. A. Cowderoy (King's, Canterbury and Jesus) cox.

* A Blue.

Racing

A chance to get wise to Little Owl

By Michael Seely

The prospective meeting between Little Owl and Wayward Lad in the Timeform Steeplechase at Haydock Park on March 8 should provide a pointer towards the National Hunt Festival at Cheltenham. Little Owl has been backed down from 25-1 to around 6-1 for the Tote Gold Cup. Wayward Lad's exhilarating defeat of the Irish horse, Royal Dipper, at Ayr immediately stamped Michael Dickinson's six-year-old as Easter Eel's chief rival for Cheltenham's Sun Alliance steeplechase.

Little Owl's merit is continually being hotly debated. Those who have joined in the wholesale gamble rave about the limitless potential of Peter Easterby's seven-year-old and refer to the ease of his three victories this season. His detractors say that he has not yet beaten anything of much account and that the best of him may not be seen until the horse has gained more experience. Dickinson subscribes to the second school of thought and is looking forward with relish towards tackling Little Owl with Wayward Lad over two-and-a-half-miles.

Haydock should be worth a visit that Saturday as Easterby also intends to run Night Nurse in the Greenall Whitley Breweries Steeplechase. The dual champion hurdler's magnificent fight against Tragus at Sandown Park recently captured the public imagination. The video recording of the race also impressed the champion trainer on his return from a visit to the two-year-old sales in Hialeah in the United States. "Night Nurse jumped a bit big in the early stages, but he was probably thinking about his fall at Kempton" Easterby said. "And what a Gold Cup trial the Freshfields Holiday Handicap has turned out to be in the last two years. Both Alverton and Tied Cottage who both finished second went on to win the Gold Cup."

Alan Brown will ride Night Nurse in the Gold Cup, the only proviso being that the horse will not run if the going is heavy on March 19. Night Nurse has also been declared for Newcastle on Friday, but is unlikely to appear there.

Easterby then outlined his plans for his other main Cheltenham hopes, Clayside, Sea Pigeon and Starfen. Clayside goes for the £6,000 Nottinghamshire Novices' Steeplechase on Saturday and will probably be aimed at the two-mile Arkle Challenge Trophy at the National Hunt meeting rather than at the three-mile Sun Alliance. "It generally a less competitive race", he said.

Starfen will take on Birds Nest in Wolverhampton's Champion Hurdle Trial next Monday. The reigning champion, Sea Pigeon, still goes to war without a preliminary race. "He is very well," his trainer said. "The Gold Cup always proved to be death in the afternoon for some poor backers. But the Champion Hurdle nearly always falls to the established star." If Sea Pigeon arrives at the start fit and fancied on March 17 Pat Muldoon's pride and joy will represent a 6-4 chance: so marked is his superiority on form to his rivals. For my money the Wincanton-bound, Heighlin is the principal danger. The 11-4 and 5-1 that are on offer against the two horses could represent good value.

Today's meeting at Towcester was abandoned yesterday, but Newton Abbot is still on. Prospects are bleak at both Windsor and Worcester tomorrow according to their respective clerks of the course unless there is a sudden thaw. If Windsor goes by the board, Silver Buck who worked with zest on frost-free grass in Yorkshire yesterday will be rerouted to the Jim Ford Challenge Cup at Wincanton on Thursday week.

There could be a royal victory at Newton Abbot this afternoon when the Queen Mother's Special Cargo seems to possess the best credentials in the Rippon Tor Novices' Steeplechase. Two other possible winners on the Devonshire course are Go Gently, whom John Francome rides for Les Kennard in the Saddle Tor Handicap Hurdle and Ray Laing's Old Knocker, whose form when second to Dashagen at Stratford-on-Avon should make the five-year-old difficult to beat in the second division of the Chinkwell Tor Novices' Hurdle.

STATE OF GOING (official): Newton Abbot: Soft. Tomorrow: Worcester: Inspection 3.0 pm today. Windsor: Inspection 11 0 am today.

New company seeks to exploit further the facilities of a versatile point-to-point course

Drive for extra horse power at Tweseldown

Tweseldown, near Aldershot, has been in existence as a racecourse for over a hundred years, and is owned by the Ministry of Defence. A special stand (later demolished) was built to enable Queen Mary to watch in relative comfort when her eldest son, the Prince of Wales, rode at the two-day Army meeting there.

At that time the Queen must have had a splendid view of the racing, but between the wars the sappers conducted a military exercise which involved the erection of a huge mound in the middle of the course opposite the finish. This now totally obscures the back straight. Although there is still a stand, most spectators prefer to watch from the mound, rushing round its summit so as to keep the horses in view—an excellent way of restoring the circulation in the kind of weather point-to-point enthusiasts have come to expect.

Tweseldown is the venue for six point-to-point meetings—the biggest number run over any one course—for the Crookham horse trials to be held on March 13 and 14 this year, for horse shows, pony club camps and other equestrian events.

The Army recently decided to discontinue their responsibility for the racecourse, the lease of which, including the permanent buildings and other facilities, was put out to tender by the Property Services Agency. The successful bidders were a local group whose members are: Guy Luck, a Kempton Park steward; Philip Scouller, chairman of the Sandhurst point-to-point area; Sally Bullen, organizer of the Crookham Horse Trials; Mark Davies, a leading point-to-point rider; and Toby Ward, one-time master of the Sandhurst and RMA Drag Hunt.

At a meeting at Heckfield Place last Sunday, attended by about 60 interested people, many of them well-known in the equestrian world, Mr Luck took the chair to explain the current situation and what was envisaged for the future. The Tweseldown Racecourse Company Limited, has been formed, to which the 21-year lease has been granted.

Mr Luck said that he and his colleagues felt sure the venture could and should be run to show a profit. He added that although the company was already adequately financed to continue Tweseldown's scheduled activities, they intended to raise extra capital so as to be able to stage more horse shows and other events, and thus exploit the facilities more fully. Shares of £100 were being offered, and a minimum investment of £200 was envisaged.

Graham Pidgeon said that the Point-to-Point Owners Association which he was representing, would certainly wish to take a stake in the company. John Sharman-Courtney told me afterwards that he expected the Royal Naval Equestrian Association to do the same.

Mr Scouller pointed out that the Tweseldown fences, which had become increasingly soft, had been beautifully rebuilt for the Army this year, and now resembled the regulation fences at minor National Hunt courses such as Fontwell Park. At least one permanent groundsman would be employed to maintain the course, ensure security, and guard against vandalism.

The Tweseldown Club is to be re-formed. The membership fee will entitle the member to school horses on the Flat, but a separate fee will be charged for schooling over fences. In conclusion, Mr Luck said that Tweseldown, with its facilities for so many different events and its scope for becoming an equestrian centre of note, was highly likely to attract a notable sponsor. An overall sponsor would be the most welcome, but separate sponsorship of individual events was also a possibility.

As a tailpiece I should like to acknowledge a long-standing personal debt to Tweseldown. In my last term at Sandhurst, having put down the Black Watch as my first choice of regiment, I was invited by Bernard Fergusson (the late Lord Ballantrae) on behalf of General Wavell, whose ADC he then was, to join the General's party at one of the Tweseldown point-to-points. Their object was to take a critical look at this gangling cadet, with a far from brilliant Sandhurst record, and decide whether he could conceivably be considered for a commission in their famous regiment.

The General, with his craggy features, eye glass, and complete lack of small talk, would have been a formidable figure had it not been for his innate kindness, which I somehow sensed. By a little gentle probing he gleaned that I was a keen follower of point-to-point form and told me to mark his card.

My guardian angel must have guided my trembling pencil, for I tipped the great man four winners out of five. A few weeks later, I learned to my great joy, that I had been gazetted into the oldest Highland Regiment.

Ian Reid

Law Report February 16 1981

Queen's Bench Division

Youths under 17 cannot be forced to be bound over

Veater v Glennon

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, and Mr Justice Lloyd

By virtue of section 19(1) of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act, 1973, which prevents sentences of imprisonment being imposed upon persons under 17 years of age, justices have no power to imprison juveniles who refuse to be bound over to keep the peace, nor can justices unilaterally impose an obligation to be bound over.

Accordingly, the Divisional Court dismissed an appeal, by case stated, by the prosecutor from the decision of Bristol justices on July 31, 1980, releasing six defendants, aged 14 and 15 years, after they had refused to be bound over to keep the peace for one year in the sum of £100 each.

Mr James Black, QC, and Mr Ian Glen for the prosecutor; Mr Ian Bullock for the defendants.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the six defendants were arrested in Park Road, Stapleton, Bristol, after reports of disorderly behaviour. Two were carrying sticks and a third was wearing a stocking mask. The six defendants made statements admitting that they had been on an expedition with the object of assaulting pupils at a neighbouring school but had not been able to find them. The police preferred complaints against them that they were behaving in a manner whereby a breach of the peace was likely to be occasioned, contrary to common law.

The facts were admitted before the justices, who were minded to bind over each of the defendants in his own recognizance of £100 to keep the peace for one year. But each refused to be bound over. After legal argument the justices took the view that they could not, in law, impose a binding over order unilaterally and that each defendant had to acknowledge his indebtedness in the amount fixed. After the defendants had refused to acknowledge their indebtedness a second time, the justices felt that they had no sanction to secure compliance with their order and that they had no alternative but to let the defendants go. Were they right?

Mr Black, for the prosecutor, contended that the justices were entitled to send the defendants to prison until they agreed to be bound and that the justices could impose a binding over order unilaterally. Such an order would have had the same effect as if the defendants had acknowledged their indebtedness and entered into their own recognizance in the amount fixed.

By section 91(1) of the Magistrates' Courts Act, 1952, a magistrates' court had power, on complaints, to order a person to enter into a recognizance, with or without sureties, to keep the peace or be of good behaviour. If the person failed or refused to comply with the order, then by section 91(3) the court might commit him to prison for a period not exceeding six months, or less if he complied.

The power under section 91 had to be distinguished from the somewhat similar power under the Justices of the Peace Act, 1361, which was exercisable by a single justice, not by reason of any offence having been committed, but as a measure of preventive justice where the person's conduct was such as to lead the justice to suspect that there might be a breach of the peace, or that he might misbehave. The sanction in the case of a failure or a refusal to enter into a recognizance under the 1361 Act was also imprisonment.

By the Powers of Criminal Courts Act, 1973, section 19(1) Parliament provided that neither the Crown Court nor a magistrates' court should impose imprisonment on a person under 17. Subsection (4) said that "impose imprisonment" meant "pass a sentence of imprisonment or commit to prison in default of payment of any sum of money, or for want of sufficient distress to satisfy any sum of money, or for failure to do or abstain from doing anything required to be done or left undone."

Section 19(1), on its face, had taken away the power of justices to impose imprisonment on a person under 17 who failed to enter into a recognizance when required. Mr Black submitted that that was not so. He said that the powers of justices under the 1361 Act were part of their civil jurisdiction, they had been left intact by subsequent criminal legislation, including section 19 of the 1973 Act, and Parliament could not have intended to take away from justices their only sanction under the 1361 Act.

Their Lordships could not accept that argument. Even if one assumed that the power of justices to bind over under the 1361 Act was part of their civil and not their criminal jurisdiction, the prohibition on imprisonment of persons under 17 would still apply. The language of section 19(1) was clear, comprehensive and imperative. There was no reason to suppose that Parliament intended to make an exception in the case of the justices' civil jurisdiction. It would be an odd result if, in the case of persons under 17, Parliament had intended to take away the power to commit under section 91 of the Magistrates' Courts Act where an offence had actually been committed, but had left unaffected the power to commit under the 1361 Act where no offence had been committed.

There was nothing in section 19 of the 1973 Act or anywhere else, which made it inapplicable to the power of justices to commit under the 1361 Act.

The justices had no power to impose a sentence of imprisonment for failure or refusal to enter into a recognizance in the case of persons under 17, and it was common ground that the justices had no power to impose any other custodial sentence.

Were the justices entitled to impose a binding over order unilaterally?

At first sight there was much to be said for the view that an order that a person be bound over to keep the peace or to be of good behaviour was like any other order imposed by a court. To suggest that such an order required consent before it was effective was almost a contradiction in terms. Moreover, a consent which could be compelled, in the case of a person over 17, by the threat of imprisonment, was hardly the sort of consent which, in other circumstances, the court would look upon with favour.

But having regard to the history of the matter, the essence of a binding over, was that the person bound over acknowledged his indebtedness to the Queen, and thereby became bound in the sum fixed by the court, and the court could not force such an acknowledgment upon a person behind his back, or treat him as being bound when he was not. The court's only remedy where a person refused to acknowledge his indebtedness was to put him in prison until he did.

There was nothing in the books which suggested that justices had any power to impose an obligation to be bound, except, indirectly, by threatening imprisonment. If they had such a power, it was strange that the much more drastic sanction of imprisonment should have become so firmly rooted in the law at such an early stage. The form of recognizance into which a person was required to enter had remained in substantially the same language for centuries. By that language the person acknowledged that he was indebted to the Queen in the sum fixed. It was now far too late to argue that the acknowledgment could be treated as a mere formality which could be dispensed with when occasion demanded. Acknowledgment of the indebtedness was an essential ingredient in the binding over process.

The justices had reached the right conclusion in law and the appeal would accordingly be dismissed.

Clearly the law was in an unsatisfactory state. Justices should not be left powerless as they were.

Solicitors: Blyth, Dutton, Holloway for Mr R. O. M. Lovibond, Bristol; Gerald Davey & Co, Bristol.

Basketball

Birmingham show that winning title is a snip

By Nicholas Harling

In an atmosphere more akin to a carnival, Team Fiat Birmingham completed the formality of winning their first National League title on Saturday with their 111—96 defeat of Stockport Belgrade, which meant that they could not be caught by Crystal Palace.

There was never much danger that Stockport would produce the upset of this or any other season and deny the Birmingham club their overdue triumph which was watched by another record crowd in the Aston Villa sports complex of 2,462. That figure also represented the highest number of people to watch a first division game.

The only anxiety Stockport caused Birmingham supporters was when they reduced a 12-point deficit late in the second half. Only six points separated the teams at half time but thereafter Stockport's only hope was to keep the score to respectable proportions. They succeeded in that aim with the help of 39 points from Martin, their outstanding marksman, who would have been nearer the 50-point mark had his accuracy not deserted him for a spell in the second half.

If Martin took the scoring honours, White, Birmingham's player-coach, was the most versatile player on court. He scored 30 points in addition to showing the responsibility and inspiration which were the reasons for his promotion by the club to a coaching position before the start of the season. For such a big man White also displays an abundance of balance and control which he uses to good effect on the occasions he brings the ball down court.

J. Stroeder, White's fellow American, scored 22 points and Samson collected another 14 on a night when all but two of their players managed to score. In the best American tradition Birmingham celebrated their triumph with the curious ritual of cutting the nets from their rims with scissors leaving their general manager Bob Hope, to ponder on replacement baskets for Thursday's British Federation Cup match against the same opponents.

Crystal Palace, whose title hopes depended on winning their last match and Birmingham losing their last three, beat Talbot Guildford 119—79 but not even that overwhelming success could help them. They were without Byrd, who was resting his knee injury in the hope that he will be completely fit for the national championship lay-offs at Wembley in March. P. Stimpson assumed the ball-carrying duties and also finished as top scorer with 29, four points more than C. Hartley and five more than Roma.

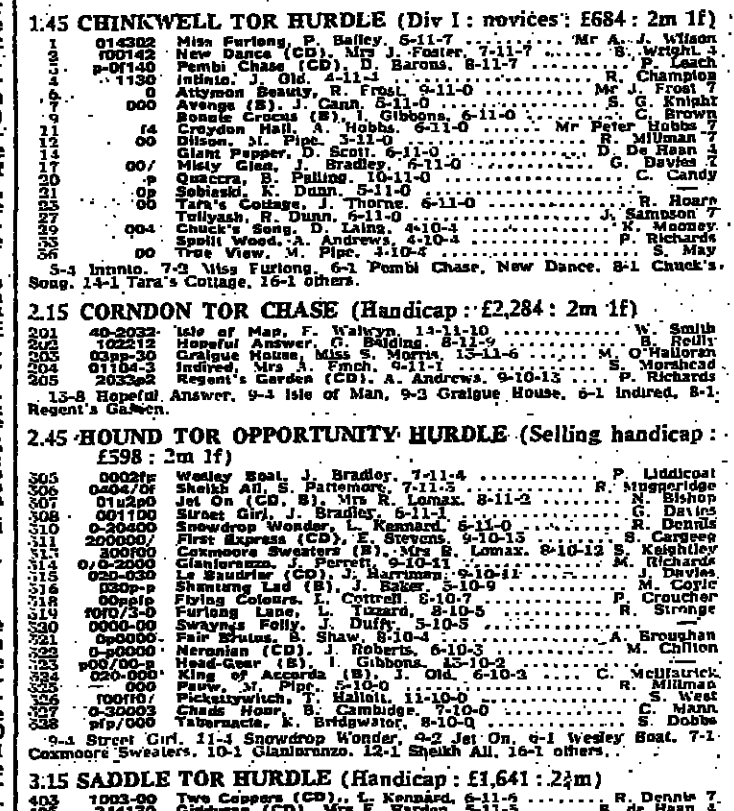
The last two play-off places will be reserved for Ovaltine Hemel Hempstead and Sunderland. Hemel won much as they pleased, 99—77 against Kelly Girl Kingston to go to Wembley for the second year running but Sunderland will be there for the first time as a result of their 74—70 win over Doncaster. In the match at Kingston, Pemberton sank 34 points for Kingston but Pace (29) and Stewart (28) enjoyed greater support. Doncaster could have taken their game into overtime but their loss of possession with 11 seconds left, enabled Macauley to sink the basket which means that the play-offs will go on for the first time without the Yorkshire club.

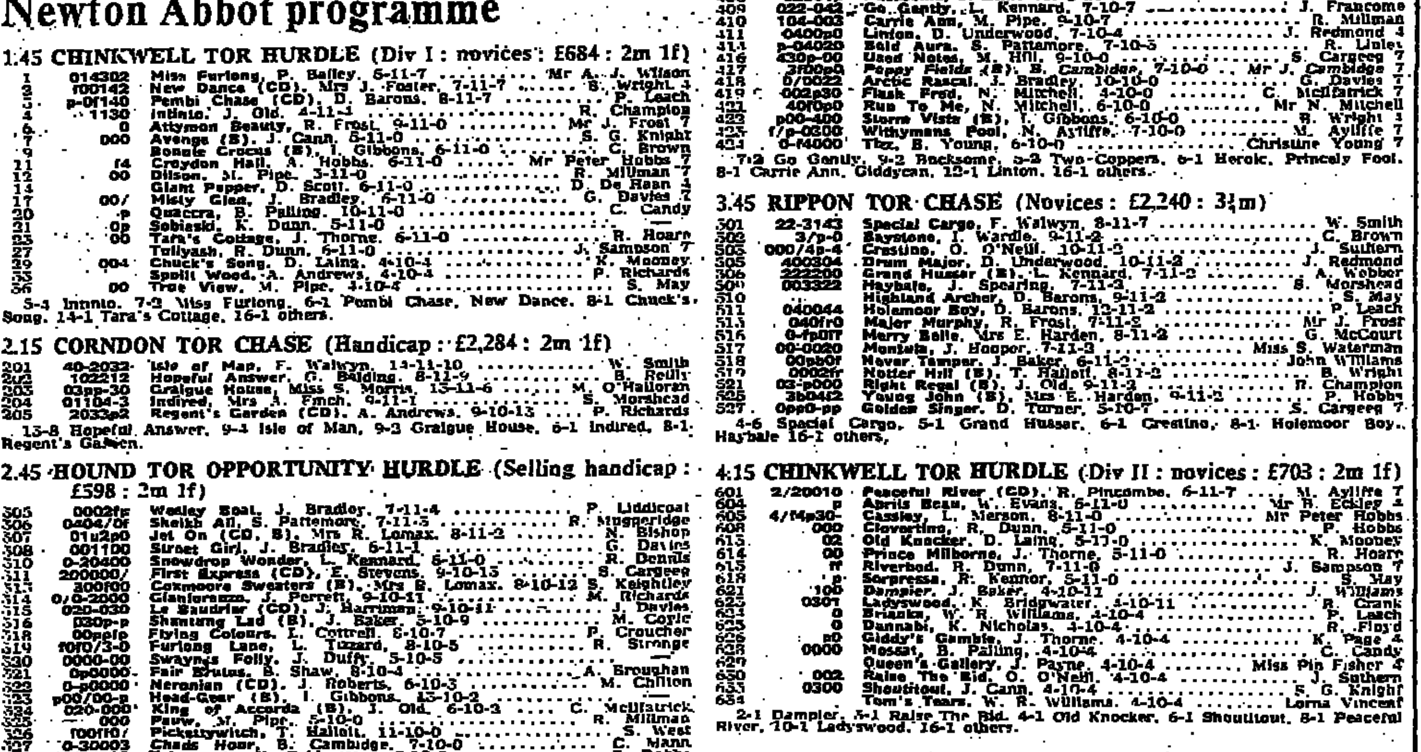
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Winnipeg Jets 4, Quebec Nordiques 3; Philadelphia Flyers 5, Montreal Canadiens 5; St Louis Blues 6, New York Rangers 4; Minnesota North Stars 7, Vancouver Canucks 2; Chicago Black Hawks 4, Hartford Whalers 4; Buffalo Sabres 2, Edmonton Oilers 2.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Philadelphia 76ers 116, Atlanta Hawks 98; New Jersey Nets 131, Golden State Warriors 132; Kansas City Kings 107, Seattle Supersonics 105; San Antonio Spurs 110, Milwaukee Bucks 108; Boston Celtics 120, Denver Nuggets 118; Indiana Pacers 115, Chicago Bulls 107; Los Angeles Lakers 107, Dallas Mavericks 99; New York Knicks 115, Phoenix Suns 101; Portland Trail Blazers 118, Utah Jazz 84.

Karate for women

A women's European karate championship is to be staged in London. The European Karate Union have announced their decision to stage the new championships which will include three weight categories: Less than 50 kilogrammes, less than 60kgs and over 60kgs. Contestants must be over 18 years of age and wear shin, fist and chest protectors.—Agence France-Presse.





Newton Abbot programme

1.45 CHINKWELL TOR HURDLE (Div I: novices: £684: 2m 1f)

1	014302	Miss Furlong, P. Bailey, 5-11-7	Mr A. J. Wilson
2	f00142	New Dance (CD), Mrs J. Foster, 7-11-7	S. Wright 3
3	p-0f140	Pembi Chase (CD), D. Barons, 8-11-7	P. Leach
4	1130	Intinto, J. Old, 4-11-1	R. Champion
6	0	Attymon Beauty, R. Frost, 9-11-0	Mr J. Frost 7
7	000	Avenge (B), J. Cann, 5-11-0	S. G. Knight
9		Bonnie Crocus (B), I. Gibbons, 6-11-0	C. Brown
11	f4	Croydon Hall, A. Hobbs, 6-11-0	Mr Peter Hobbs 7
12	00	Dilson, M. Pipe, 5-11-0	R. Millman 7
14		Giant Pepper, D. Scott, 6-11-0	D. De Haan 4
17	00/	Misty Glen, J. Bradley, 6-11-0	G. Davies 7
20	p	Quaccra, B. Palling, 10-11-0	C. Candy
21	0p	Sobieski, K. Dunn, 5-11-0	—
23	00	Tara's Cottage, J. Thorne, 6-11-0	R. Hoare
27		Tullyash, R. Dunn, 6-11-0	J. Sampson 7
29	004	Chuck's Song, D. Laing, 4-10-4	K. Mooney
33		Spoilt Wood, A. Andrews, 4-10-4	P. Richards
36	00	Tree View, M. Pipe, 4-10-4	S. May

5-4 Intinto, 7-2 Miss Furlong, 6-1 Pembi Chase, New Dance, 8-1 Chuck's Song, 14-1 Tara's Cottage, 16-1 others.

2.15 CORNDON TOR CHASE (Handicap: £2,284: 2m 1f)

201	40-2032	Isle of Man, F. Walwyn, 14-11-10	W. Smith
202	102212	Hopeful Answer, G. Balding, 8-11-9	B. Reilly
203	03pp-30	Graigue House, Miss S. Morris, 13-11-6	M. O'Halloran
204	01104-3	Indired, Mrs A. Finch, 9-11-1	S. Morshead
205	2033p2	Regent's Garden (CD), A. Andrews, 9-10-13	P. Richards

13-8 Hopeful Answer, 9-4 Isle of Man, 9-2 Graigue House, 6-1 Indired, 8-1 Regent's Garden.

2.45 HOUND TOR OPPORTUNITY HURDLE (Selling handicap: £598: 2m 1f)

305	0002fg	Wesley Boat, J. Bradley, 7-11-4	P. Liddicoat
306	0404/0f	Sheikh Ali, S. Pattemore, 7-11-3	R. Muggeridge
307	01u2p0	Jet On (CD, B), Mrs R. Lomax, 8-11-2	N. Bishop
308	001100	Street Girl, J. Bradley, 6-11-1	G. Davies
310	0-20400	Snowdrop Wonder, L. Kennard, 6-11-0	R. Dennis
311	200000/	First Express (CD), E. Stevens, 9-10-13	S. Cargeeg
313	300f00	Coxmoore Sweaters (B), Mrs R. Lomax, 8-10-12	S. Keightley
314	0/0-2000	Glanloranzo, J. Perrett, 9-10-11	M. Richards
315	020-030	Le Baudrier (CD), J. Harriman, 9-10-11	J. Davies
316	030p-p	Shantung Lad (B), J. Baker, 5-10-9	M. Corle
318	00pp0p	Flying Colours, L. Cottrell, 6-10-7	P. Croucher
319	f0f0/3-0	Furlong Lane, L. Tizzard, 8-10-5	R. Strange
320	0000-00	Swayne's Folly, J. Duffy, 5-10-5	—
321	0p0000-	Fair Brutus, B. Shaw, 8-10-4	A. Brougham
322	0-p0000	Neronian (CD), J. Roberts, 6-10-3	M. Chilton
323	p00/00-p	Head-Gear (B), I. Gibbons, 13-10-2	—
324	020-000	King of Accorda (B), J. Old, 6-10-2	C. McIlfatrick
325	000	Pauw, M. Pipe, 5-10-0	R. Millman
326	f00ff0/	Pickeitywitch, T. Hallett, 11-10-0	S. West
327	0-30003	Chads Hour, B. Cambidge, 7-10-0	C. Mann
328	pfp/000	Tabernacle, K. Bridgwater, 8-10-0	S. Dobbs

9-4 Street Girl, 11-4 Snowdrop Wonder, 9-2 Jet On, 6-1 Wesley Boat, 7-1 Coxmoore Sweaters, 10-1 Glanloranzo, 12-1 Sheikh Ali, 16-1 others.

3.15 SADDLE TOR HURDLE (Handicap: £1,641: 2½m)

403	1003-00	Two Coppers (CD), L. Kennard, 6-11-6	R. Dennis 7
405	344130	Giddycan (CD), Mrs E. Harden, 5-11-5	B. de Haan 4
406	4220-30	Princely Fool, B. Palling, 6-10-13	C. Candy
407	432423	Heroic (B), D. Barons, 6-10-13	P. Leach
408	02b04p	Bucksome, J. Edwards, 8-10-9	P. Blacker
409	022-042	Go Gently, L. Kennard, 7-10-7	J. Francome
410	104-003	Carrie Ann, M. Pipe, 9-10-7	R. Millman
411	0400p0	Linton, D. Underwood, 7-10-4	J. Redmond 4
414	p-04020	Bold Aura, S. Pattemore, 7-10-5	R. Linley
416	430p-00	Used Notes, M. Hill, 9-10-0	S. Cargeeg 7
417	3f00p0	Poppy Fields (B), B. Cambidge, 7-10-0	Mr J. Cambidge 7
418	0/0022	Arctic Rascal, J. Bradley, 10-10-0	G. Davies 7
419	002p30	Flash Fred, N. Mitchell, 4-10-0	C. McIlfatrick 7
421	40f0p0	Run To Me, N. Mitchell, 6-10-0	Mr N. Mitchell
422	p00-400	Sierra Vista (B), I. Gibbons, 6-10-0	S. Wright 3
423	f/p-0200	Withymans Fool, N. Ayliffe, 7-10-0	M. Ayliffe 7
424	0-f4000	Tiez, B. Young, 6-10-0	Christine Young 7

7-2 Go Gently, 9-2 Bucksome, 5-2 Two Coppers, 6-1 Heroic, Princely Fool, 8-1 Carrie Ann, Giddycan, 12-1 Linton, 16-1 others.

3.45 RIPPON TOR CHASE (Novices: £2,240: 3¼m)

501	22-3143	Special Cargo, F. Walwyn, 8-11-7	W. Smith
502	3/p-0	Baystone, I. Wardle, 9-11-2	C. Brown
503	000/4p-4	Crestino, O. O'Neill, 10-11-2	J. Suthern
505	400304	Drum Major, D. Underwood, 10-11-2	J. Redmond
506	222200	Grand Hussar (B), L. Kennard, 7-11-2	A. Webber
509	003322	Haybale, J. Spearing, 7-11-2	S. Morshead
510		Highland Archer, D. Barons, 9-11-2	S. May
511	040044	Holemoor Boy, D. Barons, 12-11-2	P. Leach
513	040fr0	Major Murphy, R. Frost, 7-11-2	Mr J. Frost
516	0-fp0ff	Merry Belle, Mrs E. Harden, 8-11-2	G. McCourt
517	00-0020	Montalta, J. Hooper, 7-11-2	Miss S. Waterman
518	00pb0f	Never Temper, J. Baker, 6-11-2	John Williams
519	0002fr	Notter Hill (B), T. Hallett, 8-11-2	B. Wright
521	03-p000	Right Regal (B), J. Old, 9-11-2	R. Champion
525	3b0452	Young John (B), Mrs E. Harden, 9-11-2	P. Hobbs
527	0pp0-pp	Golden Singer, D. Turner, 5-10-7	S. Cargeeg 7

4-6 Special Cargo, 5-1 Grand Hussar, 6-1 Crestino, 8-1 Holemoor Boy, Haybale 16-1 others.

4.15 CHINKWELL TOR HURDLE (Div II: novices: £703: 2m 1f)

601	2/20010	Peaceful River (CD), R. Pincombe, 6-11-7	M. Ayliffe 7
604	p	Aprils Beau, W. Evans, 6-11-0	Mr R. Eckley 4
605	4/f4p30-	Cassley, L. Merson, 8-11-0	Mr Peter Hobbs
608	000	Clovertino, R. Dunn, 5-11-0	P. Hobbs
613	02	Old Knocker, D. Laing, 5-11-0	K. Mooney
614	00	Prince Milborne, J. Thorne, 5-11-0	R. Hoare
615	ff	Riverbod, R. Dunn, 7-11-0	J. Sampson 7
618	p	Sorpressa, R. Kennor, 5-11-0	S. May
621	100	Dampier, J. Baker, 4-10-11	J. Williams
625	0301	Ladyswood, K. Bridgwater, 4-10-11	R. Crank
623	0	Brianka, W. R. Williams, 4-10-4	P. Leach
625	0	Dannabi, K. Nicholas, 4-10-4	R. Floyd
626	p0	Giddy's Gamble, J. Thorne, 4-10-4	K. Page 4
628	0000	Mossat, B. Palling, 4-10-4	C. Candy
629		Queen's Gallery, J. Payne, 4-10-4	Miss Pip Fisher 4
630	002	Raise The Bid, O. O'Neill, 4-10-4	J. Suthern
633	0300	Shoutitout, J. Cann, 4-10-4	S. G. Knight
634		Tom's Tears, W. R. Williams, 4-10-4	Lorna Vincent

2-1 Dampier, 5-1 Raise The Bid, 4-1 Old Knocker, 6-1 Shoutitout, 8-1 Peaceful River, 10-1 Ladyswood, 16-1 others.

Newton Abbot selections

By Michael Seely

1.45 Intinto. 2.15 Hopeful Answer. 2.45 Coxmoore Sweaters. 3.15 Go Gently. 3.45 Special Cargo. 4.15 Old Knocker.

Closing order no bar to fair rent

Williams v Khan

The Court of Appeal said that a rent officer or rent assessment committee was not obliged to register a nil or nominal fair rent by reason of the fact that a closing order had been made on the premises under section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

The court dismissed an appeal by Mr Isaac Williams and Mrs Lucille Williams, former tenants of a house in Small Heath, Birmingham, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Stocker (The Times, April 12, 1980) of the tenants' appeal from a decision of a rent assessment committee of the West Midlands Rent Assessment Panel determining, on appeal from a rent officer, that the fair rent payable to Mr Manir Khan, the landlord, was £5.75 a week.

LORD JUSTICE ORMROD said that the tenants applied to the rent officer to register a fair rent in December, 1977. In March, 1978, the local authority housing committee resolved to make a closing order on the house. In April, after consultation on the premises, the rent officer registered a fair rent of £6.13 a week, with effect from the date of application. The tenants appealed, and shortly afterwards the closing order was made, to come into operation on May 13. On July 12 the rent assessment committee reduced the fair rent to £5.75, but otherwise confirmed the rent officer's decision, and on the same day the tenants were rehoused.

Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1957, gave a list of the matters relevant to determining whether a house was unfit for human habitation, and the power to make a closing order was in section 17(1). Section 70 of the Rent Act, 1977, contained a different set of criteria to be regarded in determining a fair rent. The case therefore concerned two distinct pieces of legislation that had not been linked together.

It was conceded that when the rent officer made his assessment in April, 1978, before the closing order came into operation, he was not obliged to follow the view of the local authority that the house was unfit for human habitation. He could come to his own conclusion, applying the principles in section 70 of the 1977 Act.

What effect, if any, did the coming into effect of the closing order have on the assessment? Exercising their discretion as to when the assessment was to come into effect, the committee chose the date of application. They were therefore bound to take into account the fact that the house was lawfully occupied up to May 13. The court had been told that that discretion had now been removed by the Housing Act 1980: the fair rent had to operate from the date of determination. His Lordship could see no legal provision requiring the committee to fix the rent at nil in view of the closing order. Exactly the same reasoning as in Black v Oliver ([1978] QB 870) was applicable to the case. The closing order was only one factor to take into consideration, albeit an important one.

The question whether the landlord could enforce the payment of rent after the closing order had been made was not before the court. The committee had made no error in law or left out of account any material consideration, and the appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Griffiths agreed.

Angling

Salmon are reprieved in the cause of conservation

By Conrad Voss Bark

After two and a half years of effort, culminating in a public enquiry, the threatened salmon stocks of the Taw and Torridge may have been given a reprieve. Netting and spinning for salmon in these two North Devon rivers is to be considerably reduced this season with the aim of allowing an additional 500 salmon to get up to the spawning grounds in the headwaters so that stocks can be built up again.

Conservation takes a long time. It was in 1978 that the North Devon fisheries officer, Stuart Bray, noting a marked decline in salmon parr (the newly-hatched salmon) in both Taw and Torridge, started the long and in many ways frustrating process of argument, scientific enquiry, and consultation with hundreds of local interests, that culminated in a public enquiry at Bideford last year and the confirmation this week by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the proposed restrictions on catches.

The number of netting licences will be reduced from 36 last year to a mere 14 in the coming season and—depending on who they go to—this could represent a very considerable reduction and sacrifice. At the same time the area where netting is allowed will be reduced and there will be further restrictions on the types of net that can be used.

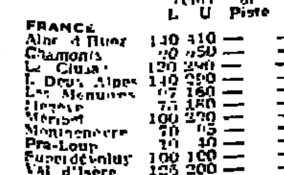
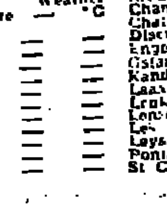
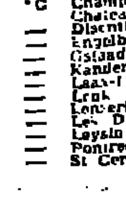
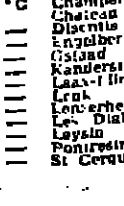
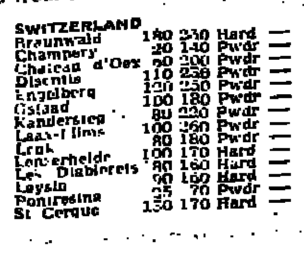
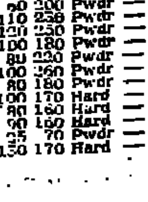
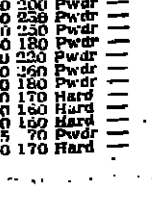
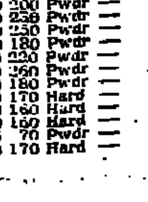
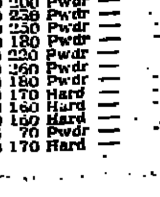
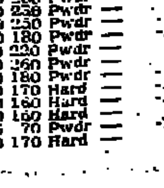
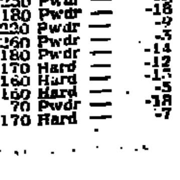
Anglers are also involved in what is called "the conservation package". A new byelaw will prohibit the use of spinners—artificial minnows, spoons, and similar hardware—after the end of April, in both rivers. In addition, the riparian owners have agreed to try to get all anglers on their waters to observe a voluntary limitation on their catches—not more than three salmon to be taken by any one angler in any one week.

The Taw and Torridge "conservation package" is regarded generally as being a pretty tough one that will serve as an example and set out guidelines to other regions. The artificial propagation of salmon to restore the level of stocks was overwhelmingly rejected after a scientific study under the chairmanship of the regional director, Gordon Bielby. On the scale that artificial propagation is available in this country, it would be absurdly expensive and would need a hatchery the size of a small town. Restriction of catches was found to be the only way in which the salmon stocks could be preserved.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Davos	100	220	Good	Varied	Good	Sun	-10
Sunny, cold, good skiing							
Flaine	145	490	Hard	Crust	Good	Sun	-1
Very sunny and good skiing							
Kitzbuhel	75	205	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-10
Lower slopes icy							
Klosters	120	220	Good	Varied	Icy	Fine	-15
Skiing conditions constant							
La Plagne	165	345	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-4
Worn patches on lower slopes							
Sauze d'Oulx	10	25	Worn	Varied	Worn	Fine	0
Worn patches everywhere							
Verbier	60	250	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine	3
Some icy patches							
Wildschonau	100	250	Fair	Crust	Fair	Clear	-2
Good piste skiing							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refer to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
FRANCE					
Alpe d'Huez	130	310	—	—	—
Chamonix	20	250	—	—	—
La Clusaz	120	290	—	—	—
Les Deux Alpes	140	290	—	—	—
Les Menuires	67	160	—	—	—
Megève	75	180	—	—	—
Meribel	100	290	—	—	—
Montgenevre	50	65	—	—	—
Pra-Loup	10	40	—	—	—
Superdevoluy	100	100	—	—	—
Val d'Isère	125	200	—	—	—
SWITZERLAND					
Braunwald	180	230	Hard	—	-6
Champery	20	140	Pwdr	—	-5
Chateau d'Oex	70	200	Pwdr	—	-10
Disentis	110	230	Pwdr	—	-6
Engelberg	120	230	Pwdr	—	-12
Gstaad	100	180	Pwdr	—	-18
Kandersteg	80	220	Pwdr	—	-9
Laax-Flims	100	260	Pwdr	—	-3
Lenk	80	180	Pwdr	—	-14
Lenzerheide	100	170	Hard	—	-12
Les Diablerets	80	160	Hard	—	-13
Leysin	90	160	Hard	—	-5
Pontresina	25	70	Pwdr	—	-18
St Cergue	150	170	Hard	—	-7

Table tennis

Hilton severely treated in new world rankings

By Richard Streeton

John Hilton, England's European champion, has been demoted from fifth to twenty-eighth place in new world ranking lists issued today by the International Table Tennis Federation. Desmond Douglas has retained eleventh place in the men's list and Jill Hammersley keeps her eighth ranking in the women's list and is the highest placed European woman. These are the only English players ranked in the 35 places given to men players and the 21 for women.

Hilton's big drop is almost unprecedented at this level and means he will not be seeded at the world championships in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, in April. The top 16 men and women in the lists would usually be seeded if they entered. Although Hilton has had some disappointing results lately, he has been severely treated. Hilton finished last with only one win out of 11 matches in the recent European Top 12 event but he has still won six of his 12 singles in helping England to the top of the European League this season.

MEN: 1, S. Ono (Japan); 2, Guo Yue Hua (China); 3, Shi Zhihao (China); 4, Wang Hui Yuan (China); 5, T. Klampar (Hungary); 6, S. Bengtsson (Sweden); 7, Cai Zhenhua (China); 8, Xia Saike (China); 9, J. Dvoracek (Czechoslovakia); 10, Li Zhenshi (China); 11, D. Douglas (England); 12, N. Takashima (Japan); 13, Lu Yaohua (China); 14, J. Secretin (France); 15, M. Orlowski (Czechoslovakia); 16, Teng Yi (China).

WOMEN: 1, Zhang Deying (China); 2, Cao Yan Hua (China); 3, Qi Baoxiang (China); 4, Tong Ling (China); 5, Pak Yung Sun (North Korea); 6, Li Song Suk (North Korea); 7, An Mae Suk (South Korea); 8, J. Hammersley (England); 9, Geng Lijuan (China); 10, B. Vriesekoop (Netherlands); 11, Shen Jianping (China); 12, M. Kawahigashi (Japan); 13, V. Popova (USSR); 14, J. Magos (Hungary); 15, Kim Kyung Ja (South Korea); 16, I. Uhlikova (Czechoslovakia).

Golf

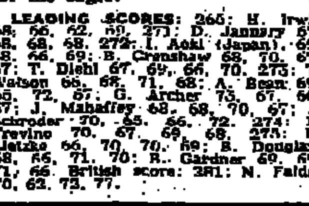
Disappointment for Faldo, Irwin's record

Honolulu, Feb 16.—Hale Irwin finished with a birdie and an eagle yesterday to set a tournament record of 265, 23 under par, and win the Hawaiian Open tournament by six shots from Don January. The victory, the 12th of Irwin's tour career, was worth $58,500. He finished with a 69, three under par, to break the record of 266 that was set a year ago by Andy Bean.

January, aged 51, recorded a final round of 68 for his 271 and earned $35,100. Ben Crenshaw, Terry Diehl and Isao Aoki (Japan) tied for third at 272.

Nicholas Faldo, of Britain, who led after his second round 62, had a bad day with a five-over-par 77 and finished in a tie for 40th at 281, seven under par. He had required a finish among the top 15 and prize money of at least $6,300 to ensure exemption from pre-qualifying tournaments on the forthcoming American tour. A misunderstanding over the telephone led to an indication in yesterday's later editions that he had achieved the necessary status, which he had not.

Irwin had a birdie on the 17th hole after a five iron to within 6ft. At the 539-yard 18th hole he hit a driver and three wood to within 25 feet and made the putt for his eagle.

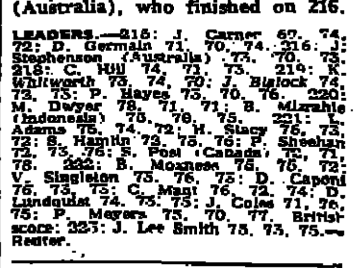


LEADING SCORES: 265: H. Irwin 68, 66, 62, 69. 271: D. January 67, 68, 68, 68. 272: I. Aoki (Japan), 69, 68, 66, 69; B. Crenshaw 68, 70, 67, 67; T. Diehl 67, 69, 66, 70. 273: T. Watson 66, 68, 71, 68; A. Bean 69, 65, 72, 67; G. Archer 73, 67, 66, 67; J. Mahaffey 68, 68, 70, 67; J. Schroder 70, 65, 66, 72. 274: L. Trevino 70, 67, 69, 68. 275: B. Lietzke 66, 70, 70, 69; B. Douglass 68, 66, 71, 70; R. Gardner 69, 69, 71, 66. British score: 281: N. Faldo, 70, 62, 72, 77.

Mrs Carner keeps the holder at bay

St Petersburg, Florida, Feb 16.—Joanne Carner defeated Dot Germain on the first hole of a sudden death play-off to win the $100,000 tournament here yesterday. They had completed three rounds in 215, one under par. Mrs Carner's victory came a week after losing a similar play-off to Sally Little in Miami. She lost a stroke on the 17th and watched Miss Germain, the defending champion, achieve a birdie at the 18th to force the play-off. But Miss Germain was one over par at the first play-off hole and Mrs Carner achieved par to gain the victory.

"I enjoy playing in Florida", Mrs Carner said. She is the tour's leading money-winner with $27,800 and the only golfer to finish in the top 10 in the first three Ladies' Professional Golf Association events of 1981. Miss Germain was followed home by Jan Stephenson (Australia), who finished on 216.



LEADERS.—215: J. Carner 69, 74, 72; D. Germain 71, 70, 74. 216: J. Stephenson (Australia) 73, 70, 73. 218: C. Hill 74, 71, 73. 219: K. Whitworth 73, 74, 72; J. Blalock 74, 72, 73; P. Hayes 73, 70, 76. 220: M. Dwyer 78, 71, 71; B. Mizrahie (Indonesia) 75, 70, 75. 221: L. Adams 75, 74, 72; H. Stacy 76, 73, 72; S. Hamlin 73, 75, 73; P. Sheehan 72, 73, 76; S. Post (Canada) 72, 71, 78. 222: B. Moxness 75, 75, 72; V. Singleton 75, 76, 73; D. Caponi 76, 73, 73; C. Mant 76, 72, 74; D. Lundquist 74, 73, 75; J. Coles 71, 76, 75; P. Meyers 75, 70, 77. British score: 225: J. Lee Smith 75, 75, 75.—Reuter.

Mrs Bonallack defends

The Curtis Cup golfer, Angela Bonallack, will defend her title in the Roehampton Gold Cup tournament on Friday, March 13. Her challengers include the former winners, Belle Robertson, Angela Uzielli and Carole Caldwell. None of Britain's professionals has so far entered for the event.

Tennis

LYON: Cezon Cup: Final: P. Domingner beat S. Birner (Czechoslovakia), 6—4, 6—4, 5—7, 6—7, 6—4.

Forget the cases

Sharpe v Sharpe

A court should be able to come to a decision on financial provision after divorce by applying section 25 of the Matrimonial Causes Act, 1973, without looking at the reported cases, Lord Justice Ormrod said in the Court of Appeal.

HIS LORDSHIP said that it was often said that the Court of Appeal was inconsistent when considering family finances. Each family was unique, and often decisions decided on different facts or even similar facts were not always helpful. Sometimes a Mesher-type order was appropriate, but again on very similar facts such an order might not be appropriate. The judge had to go through the exercise of section 25. There was no need to look at the reported cases.

His Lordship, who was sitting with Lord Justice Griffiths and Mr Justice Purchas, was giving judgment in an appeal by a wife from a county court decision relating to the former matrimonial home.

Bernard Levin

Charlie Chan's yellow peril

Early last year, I told here the story of the row that was growing around a film being made in the United States, in which I took a warm interest because the director, *Clive Donner*, is my cousin and also a friend from childhood to the present day and far beyond. The film, starring Peter Ustinov, has now been made, under the title *Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Woman*: it does indeed constitute, as the name implies, a revival of the famous pre-war fictional detective. If you are too young to remember Charlie Chan from the first time round, I must tell you that the hero (of a long series of films and, later, television dramas) was a Chinese, and therefore much given to beginning sentences "Confucius he say". Much more important, however, is the fact that the character was always portrayed as infinitely sagacious and invariably successful, and—mark these words, please, and mark them well—*the reason he was so clever and always defeated the villains was precisely that he was Chinese*: while whitey stumbled helplessly in the rear, Charlie Chan was demonstrating the superiority of Chinese brains and culture.

I have a sad feeling that, even if you did not read my earlier column on the subject, you know what is coming now. Before a foot of the film had been shot, the Rentamobsters were out, ululating about "racist stereotypes" and organizing the intimidation of anyone associated with the film: in San Francisco (a city which used to be a very definition of tolerance, but has clearly been as corrupted and terrorized as New York itself by the groups which will allow no tolerance to anyone but themselves), shooting was hindered, the *company making the film* was threatened with reprisals, and pressure was brought against distributors and others whose cooperation was essential.

Clive kept his nerve; so did the film company, a firm called American Cinema; so did Peter Ustinov and the other players (they include Angie Dickinson, Lee Grant and Roddy McDowell, and also Rachel Roberts, who, sadly, died shortly after it was finished). It opened in Los Angeles last week to a great deal more ululation from the bodies that had started the trouble earlier, together with some extra ones, no doubt invented specially for the occasion. There are "Chinese for Affirmative Action", for instance, and the "Association of Asian-American Artists"; they pretend to believe that a *character whose chief function* is to be wiser and more successful than anyone else is "a racist and degrading stereotype", and that the film is engaged on "robbing Asian-Americans of dignity, pride and human qualities".

Peter Ustinov has not only kept his nerve; he has carried the fight to the enemy, describing the *pressure-groups* (there is not the slightest reason to suppose that most Chinese-Americans want to be represented by these people, or feel any of the things so confidently ascribed to them by the Rentamobsters) as "predators making unsafe the waters in which we all want to bathe"—the waters being, of course, those of freedom.

But Mr Ustinov has also said that he is "appalled at the cowardice displayed by those who *run American television*", and there is much significance in the remark. For the censors and intimidators have been *threatening to picket and otherwise* harass any television station that accepts and shows advertisements for the film, and *all but one, it seems*, have capitulated to the blackmailers. Note that Mr Ustinov said he was "appalled" by their cowardice; he did not say he was "surprised", and he would have shown himself as quite exceptionally naive if he had. For the creatures who run television in America have raised cowardice to the status of an art-form, and can count themselves very Rembrandts, Shakespeares, and Beethovens of poltroonery. Indeed, with the single exception of the Federal Communications Commission itself, the statutory body (equivalent to the IBA and the Board of Governors of the BBC) set up to oversee the American television industry, it is probable that no more entirely funk-ridden, creepy-crawly, battle-scared, craven, faint-hearted, chicken-livered, spunkless, yellow-bellied, recreant gaggle of wee, sleekit, cow'rin, timorous beasties than the men who run American television have ever been *gathered together* on the face of the earth, and the only comment it will occur to them to make on the foregoing catalogue of appropriate adjectives is that I should have said "the men *and women* who run American television" because they are also afraid that some militant feminist will complain that they acquiesce in my "sexist" language unless they make it clear that they don't.

One of the officials of the film company, Mr Richard Lederer, *has now said* something that is of particular interest to me; he claims that the suppressors and banners and intimidators are "practising censorship and violating the company's right to free speech". So indeed they are, but the reason that I find it especially encouraging to know that the film company are *thinking* along these lines is that in my earlier column on the subject I suggested that they should investigate the possibility of taking action against the mob-leaders under the Civil Rights legislation, which as I read it certainly gives them the opportunity to claim heavy damages on the ground that the censors are violating the company's right to the protection of the First Amendment, the one guaranteeing freedom of speech.

And yet the saddest aspect of this affair is what it implies for the present State of the Union. How can it be that in so short a time that great nation has surrendered so many parts of its liberty to so many *groups* of fanatics, mostly representing no one but themselves? Newspapers and books—nay, the very dictionaries—are searched *and filtered* and filleted, not by censors but by those who, though they should be resisting censorship, are willingly doing the censors' work for them. Films and television are likewise subject to abuse, harassment and blackmail for saying anything that could be construed, by the hypocritical, the malignant and the totalitarian, as *in some way* offensive to any group of people who can be presented as in some way in need of protection: a new protection-racket indeed.

> The creatures who run television in America have raised cowardice to the status of an art form

In Universities there are now committees charged with *scrutinizing* research-projects lest these might lead to discoveries unpleasing to the new tyrants, for instance that there may be a correlation between race and intelligence. In some areas (such as anywhere within earshot of Mr John Dean) it is unsafe to pass, even privately, an unguarded word, lest among those who hear it should be *one* who will nip off and sell it to the newspapers.

Is it come to this? Has the most receptive, exploring, innovative, experimental, untrammelled, open-hearted nation in the world turned itself, *or* at least begun to turn itself, into a land of men so terrorized by the new authoritarians, who have by their hate-ridden intolerance befouled the very name of liberalism, that if anyone in their vicinity should idly blow up a paper bag and *burst it, they are instantly* willing, without further orders, to ply the Sultan's knife on their own privates?

I hope not. I hope that that tide will soon turn, and carry far out to sea with it the new and more terrible army of banners. I hope American Cinema, Inc, will stand firm, and that *Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Woman* will be a huge success.

Miners v Tories: the supreme test that faces Mrs Thatcher

Perhaps the men of Coegnant did not realize it when they voted to strike over the Coal Board's plan to shut their pit, but they have stirred uneasy *memories of the early Seventies* and forebodings about the future. Are the coalfields about to come to a halt? And if the miners strike, where will it end?

All the signs point towards *a fairly rapid slide into* an unofficial strike covering most of the major coalfields that could then be formalized in a secret pithead ballot once the miners have got the bit between their teeth. It could be a long *struggle, with no certainty of* success. But leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers sense there is no alternative.

It is not widely enough known that the NUM has negotiated—relatively peacefully—the closure of 40 pits since the strike of 1974 which was largely blamed for the fall of the last Conservative administration. Shutdowns have proceeded apace through the industry's colliery review procedure, which is *designed to secure an orderly* rundown of pits nearing the end of their natural life.

The NUM has always accepted that in an extractive industry such as coalmining there must be closures. By the very nature of things, pits run out of coal. Of late, however, there have been spasmodic but growing signs of a revolt against this *form of industrial euthanasia*.

In the 18 months since the unhappy saga of Deep Duffryn pit, which they said should stay open but eventually closed, the South Wales miners have opted out of the review procedure. Elsewhere, ballots were held to raise support for industrial action against the planned shutdown of individual pits such as Teversal in Nottinghamshire and Langwith in Derbyshire. All they demonstrated was that the men are unwilling to strike if their own interests are not directly affected.

Then things began to change. After conceding a number of closures in North Yorkshire, Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing area president of the NUM, hit on the idea of a vote on the *principle of industrial action* against the shutdown programme that everybody in the industry knew was coming. The men returned an 86 per cent vote for action.

That was on the eve of the Coal Board's presentation to the mining unions, and the boulder set rolling in Yorkshire is now picking up momentum in the most unlikely places.

Pitmen's delegates in Durham are urging a strike against the shutdown of four pits in the coalfield, and there are militant noises in the Midlands. Even in *Nottinghamshire, the heartland of pit moderation*, the area president, Mr Ray Chadburn, is arguing that the impending closure of New Hucknall colliery could be the flashpoint of industrial action. And that is a pit that the area had already agreed to shut.

A national miners' strike could be the supreme test of *Mrs Thatcher's resolve. It will* certainly be a major test of Mr James Prior's labour law reforms aimed at curbing the power of pickets, and if it goes on for a long time it could cause serious economic difficulties, large coal stocks or no.

It is not possible to discuss the impact of a miners' strike without considering the political dimensions. Not possible, because the militants immediately raise the possibility, in the Marxist jargon, of "creating the *conditions to bring about an* early general election leading to the return of a Labour government pledged to socialist policies". Both Mr Scargill and Mr McGahey, communist leader of the Scots pitmen, have voiced this prospect already, and it frightens some of the NUM moderates as much as it does the Tory faithful.

In fact, this Government is not about to repeat the mistakes of the Heath administration and much of the politicking is designed for internal consumption. There are elections pending at branch level and the whole union is gradually being cranked up into an electoral frenzy over the succession to Mr Joe Gormley, who is due to retire as national president. Accordingly, there is competi*tion to see who can be the most vociferous champion of the* miner's right to work.



Mr Joe Gormley: who will be the next champion?

This verbal willingness to take a hard line will be tried when the picketing gets under way. In the past two strikes it was picketing—particularly of power stations—that negated the value of large coal stocks and won the day. Under the 1980 Employment Act, picketing is *now* restricted to a trade unionist's place of work.

Sympathetic industrial action is likewise limited to first customers and suppliers of the National Coal Board, *and it* must be shown that the principal purpose of such action is to interfere with the supply of goods, and that such action is "reasonably likely" to achieve that purpose.

The Government takes the view that miners who picket anywhere but their own colliery will be acting contrary to the law, and will as individuals become liable for damages in the High Court if the Coal Board or the Central Electricity Generating Board take out an action. That is, if the culprits can actually be identified and the ministry's spokesmen are understandably shy about predicting what would happen if the miners refused to pay such damages.

The legal situation of sympathetic power workers is much more complex, and would have *to be tested in court. On the* face of things, they could legitimately plead immunity for action involving the "blacking" of coal supplies.

But if picketing on this scale does ensue, will Mrs Thatcher be tempted once again, as she was during the steel strike a year ago, to bring in a short, sharp Bill to curtail trade union *powers still further? On that* occasion the Prime Minister was dissuaded from precipitate legislation. If scenes reminiscent of 1972 appear on our television screens, will she be able to resist the temptation a second time?

These are considerations that arise beyond the immediate repercussions of a miners' *strike. However, the Coal* Board will strive to keep public attention fixed on its basic economic premise: that 10 million tonnes of capacity should be closed so as to bring rising output into line with falling demand. The industry cannot continue to put eight million tonnes a year into stock. The cost of such stocks is a huge burden, and the NCB is running *out of space to dump the coal*, particularly in South Wales.

For their part, the miners *will argue that it is "the economics of the madhouse"* to import eight million tonnes of coal a year, even if it is cheap, while closing down mines in Britain. They want a ban on imports and operating subsidies of the kind paid elsewhere in Europe.

However, the Government has *deliberately boxed itself into* the commercial constraints of the 1980 Coal Industry Act, which lays down that operating subsidies, far from being increased, should be phased out altogether over the next three years. *The Cabinet will not entertain* a ban on imports, and the only loophole left is the Act's provision for increased "social payments" such as redundancy money and generous schemes for early retirement.

This strategy has succeeded to a large degree in the steel industry, though at a cost of hundreds of millions of pounds in *redundancy payments. It has* succeeded elsewhere in industry, too, because the temptation of a large lump sum of money is an *irresistible* enticement to many workers. At present, the miners are saying that no amount of money will get them to sell jobs.

They applauded Mr Peter Heathfield, the Derbyshire area leader, at last week's London rally when he insisted that this generation of miners had no right to disinherit the next generation. The *miners stand* at the end of a long line of workers who have done just that. If the delibitating effect of the *"pieces of silver"* is to be resisted, they will have to draw deeply on their reserves of communal self-reliance and their traditions of sticking together.

Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Is confidence enough to win the war in Namibia?

Grootfontein, Namibia

After a visit to Namibia's *northern border it is not hard* to understand why South Africa turned its back on the proposed United Nations settlement plan for Namibia during last month's conference in Geneva.

A *tour* of South African military bases in the "operational area," along Namibia's border with Angola and Zambia, which the South African defence forces organized for foreign correspondents last week, left two clear impressions.

The first was that the South Africans believe they have got *the South West Africa People's* Organization (Swapo) on the run. The prevailing view among senior officers is that, given time, they will be able to neutralize the military influence of Swapo in Ovamboland, where the bulk of the fighting is taking place, in the same way as they have succeeded in driving Swapo from *the other tribal regions in the* North.

The second was that South African military chiefs seem convinced that the proposal (contained in the United Nations settlement plan) to establish a demilitarized zone along the 700-mile northern border would be tantamount to handing the entire area over to Swapo. *As more than 60 per* cent of Namibia's one million inhabitants live within the area of the proposed DMZ, the military believe that the bulk of them could be "intimidated" into supporting Swapo in the event of a unsupervized election being held.

Certainly the South Africans seem confident enough as they *chat over sundowners in the* messes of the heavily defended camps which have been established throughout the length of the "operational area". And the camps themselves have a look of permanency about them. They are bigger, better fortified and better equipped than they were when I previously visited the area. The number of military vehicles one sees has also substantially increased.

So too have the ranks of the *eight ethnic battalions of what* is known as the South West Africa Territory Force *(SWATF) which are fighting* alongside South African detachments. In some areas the "ethnic" battalions—comprising *Ovambos, Kavangos, Capri*vians and Bushmen—make up over half the total South African military presence.

South African confidence is based on the sorts of statistics which all conventional forces *involved in counter-insurgency* operations like to produce to show they are winning the war. According to Major-General Charles Lloyd, who is joint Commander of the South African Defence Force and the South West Africa Territory Force in Namibia, the "kill ratio" is about 20 to one in the South Africans' favour.

He said that between January 1978 and the end of last year 3,343 members of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), which is the military wing of Swapo, had been killed. About 1,400 of them died last year. This is an extremely heavy toll for an army whose total numbers are put at between 6,000 and 8,000. By *contrast the total security* force losses last year amounted to 72 (including those killed in accidents).

Senior military officers maintain that the more aggressive tactics adopted by the defence force during the past few months—with cross-border raids into southern Angola now a regular occurrence—has *forced Swapo to move its main* operational bases deep into Angola. As a result their lines of communications are overstretched and it has become easier for the South Africans to intercept groups of insurgents as they make their way through the bush towards the Angolan-Namibian border.

"The morale of Swapo is very low now because many of their fighters are short of food and supplies", Colonel Leon Martins, who is in charge of *the eastern-central sector of* the "operational area", said. "They also have their own internal problems and are meeting increasing hostility from the local population in Angola."

There can be no denying that the South Africans have scored some impressive successes in the Caprivi Strip, Kavangoland (situated between Caprivi and Ovamboland) and the western coastal region of *Kaokaland*. For example, there has not been a serious incident and no civilians have been killed in Caprivi since August, *1978*, when the base at Katima Mulilo came under mortar and rocket fire from the Zambian side of the Zambezi River. Nor have there been any serious incidents in Kavangoland since mid-1979 when some Swapo in*surgents were killed while* returning from raids on white farmers further south.

The South African success in Caprivi has been particularly striking. Once the region used to be one of the main areas of *Swapo* operations and was used as an infiltration route into Namibia from Zambia and Angola. Recently, however, Caprivian members of Swapo (former supporters of the Caprivi African National *Union*—CANU) have *begun* returning to the region and giving themselves up to the authorities.

At least 87 have come back since last November, following the ousting of Mr Misbak Muyongo (a Caprivian) as vice-president of Swapo. One of the returnees, Mr Ben Maguko, formerly Swapo's *deputy chief representative* in New York, said they had come back because they resented the anti-Caprivian discrimination displayed by the Ovambo majority in Swapo and because they wanted to reestablish CANU as a political party in Caprivi.

The South Africans have backed their military operations in these areas with a programme of "civic action", under which national servicemen are assigned to help in hospitals, schools and social projects. The purpose of "civic action" is, in the words of commandant Dirk Du Toit, to "win over the hearts and minds of the local inhabitants *and to create a positive* attitude towards the South African defence force".

Quoting from Mao Tse-tung (whose works are banned in South Africa) he added that "wars begin in the minds of *men, and it is in the minds of* men that peace must be built".

The "civic action" programme has achieved some success in Caprivi and Kavangoland, but has been an almost total failure in Ovamboland. *Swapo is a predominantly* Ovambo organization and it is probable that a majority of Ovambos would support Swapo in a free and fair election. When Swapo's insurgents move into Ovamboland they are effectively operating on "home ground". Few Ovambos are likely to be wooed into supporting the South African presence *in the territory even* though over 200 Ovambo civilians were killed by Swapo last year (over half of them in land mine incidents).

There has been some diminution of Swapo activities in Ovamboland during he past few months as a result of almost continuous cross-border raids by the South Africans. However they continue to plant landmines almost at will along the road which leads from the main South African base at Grootfontein to the Ovambo heartland. Swapo also regularly succeeds in blowing up the power line connecting the huge hydro-electric complex at Ruacana with the main industrial centres in the South. A rocket attack two weeks ago against the South African base at Oshakati, while doing little damage, was clearly designed to show that Swapo still has the capacity to strike at major defence installatiods.

General Lloyd, while accepting that a political rather than a military solution must eventually be found for Namibia, believes that his present military strategy could eventually achieve the same degree of stability in Ovamboland as exists in the adjoining regions. In fact he *maintains* that if his forces were given a free rein when attacking targets in southern Angola rather than avoiding contact with Angolan troops and civilians the war would already be won. "What we are having to do is fight a war in peace-time conditions", he said.

The South African belief *that they are beginning to get* the upper hand over Swapo explains why they are so opposed to the establishment of a demilitarized zone. Under the terms of the United Nations settlement plan all South African troops would be withdrawn from the zone before elections are held. They would be replaced by a 7,500-*strong United Nations force* whose job would be to maintain a ceasefire in the "operational area" and ensure that the demilitarized zone was not violated by either side.

However, the South African *military are convinced this* would be an impossible task for such a tiny force operating in such a huge area. "It would mean that the whole area would become open to Swapo intimidation", Colonel Martins said. "People who are presently anti-Swapo would become pro-Swapo within three months if the defence force *pulls out." General Lloyd was* equally sceptical about the proposed elections. "I do not think the United Nations plan as it stands can achieve its aim of ensuring the holding of free and fair elections."

Judging from the present mood of the South African Government and the main internal Namibian political *parties, there is no intention of* going ahead with the United Nations settlement plan for the foreseeable future. Therefore, the defence force will have plenty of time to show whether in fact they can win the war in Ovamboland or whether Swapo will prove to be as determined and resilient a force as the nationalist guerrillas in Zimbabwe.

Nicholas Ashford

ANGOLA
ZAMBIA
R. Kunene
OVAMBOLAND
CAPRIVI STRIP
NAMIBIA
ROADS
RAILWAYS
AIRPORT
200 MILES
Otjiwarongo
Grootfontein
Omaruru
Usakos
Karibib
WINDHOEK
Gobabis
Swakopmund
20°
Walvis Bay
Rehoboth
BOTSWANA
ANGOLA
ZAMBIA
ZIMBABWE
NAMIBIA
BOTSWANA
MOZAMBIQUE
SOUTH AFRICA
DAMARALAND
Mariental
NAMAQUALAND
25°
Keetmanshoop
Luderitz
Karasburg
R. Orange
ATLANTIC OCEAN
15°
SOUTH AFRICA

LONDON DIARY

The right time for a voice from the left?

It will not have escaped your notice (it certainly has not escaped mine) that there has been a slight change of ownership in our national press. Now that nearly one third of the output of Fleet Street pours from one man's presses, I shall not be in the least surprised if some fresh life is breathed into the campaign, which surfaces every so often, to establish a *national daily newspaper of the* left.

There used to be one. It was called the *Daily Herald*, half-owned by the TUC; but in its latter years it fell into steep decline until transmogrified into *The Sun* in a final attempt to resuscitate it. Its title was finally taken by a new paper of vastly different editorial and political views.

Some would say there still is a left-wing daily. But the dear old *Daily Mirror* is really much too sensible and considered in its outlook to be properly classed as such, although it provides a healthy antidote to the Toryism of *The Sun*, even if it does not sell as many copies.

There are two others which could properly be regarded as dailies of the true left: the *Morning Star* and *The News Line*. Unfortunately both have their colours nailed to particularly narrow masts.

Despite a vigorous circulation campaign, the Communist Party's 51-year-old *Star* is in decline. Latest information suggests that under *20,000* copies are sold in Britain each day, although a further 14,000 are despatched nightly to Eastern Europe.

The News Line is a more interesting case altogether. Its circulation is impossible to assess; I suspect it is very small, but on the other hand its owners did buy three large lorries last year to distribute the paper from its Runcorn, Chesire, printing plant. It is the product of the Workers' Revolutionary Party, whose principal asset is Vanessa Redgrave, and is an impressive publication; a recent Saturday copy before me has 24 pages, several in full colour, all for 12p.

But *The News Line* is really much too extreme to be regarded as anything other than the mouthpiece of an extremist faction.



The Campaign *for Press Freedom*, established last year with the backing of Tony Benn and a number of trade union leaders, favours a mainstream left-wing daily, at least partly financed by a Labour Government creaming off some of the advertisement revenue from the established Fleet Street titles. The idea was seriously debated in Labour Party circles before *the election defeat of 1979*, but the cost of launching a new national paper was found to be terrifying.

I still think it will happen one day, although not just yet; and it will be financed by a number of the wealthier trade unions. Anyone who seriously believes in a diversified press must welcome it as an alternative voice. But the trade unions are in no position to set it up at the moment; their copious wallets are *too* committed to bailing out the Labour Party.

Gallop poll

Little did I realize, when I first mentioned it early last December, *that so many of you would* act upon it. (You may have read it elsewhere, but you read it here first). The announcement of a new Chancellor for London University, which should have been known on *Saturday*, has been delayed until today because the Senate House has been flooded by a tidal wave of voting papers.

You may recall my pointing out that Princess Anne was the sole nomination to succeed her grandmother in the largely ceremonial but nonetheless important post, and that unless the 80,000 members of Convocation of London University woke up to the fact, it would be a one-horse race. I was grinding no axes for or against HRH, merely reporting the views of one graduate who thought there ought at least to be a properly contested election.

The graduates certainly did wake up. Not only did they put up two alternative candidates, Jack Jones and Nelson Mandela, but by the time voting closed on Saturday more than 42,000 members out of a total electorate of around 80,000 had cast their votes.

The result should have been declared at the end of Saturday's meeting of Convocation, but the task was plainly impossible. Counting started at 9 am yesterday, with 40 tellers drafted in from other university offices, and by late yesterday afternoon they still had not waded through the huge pile. They are due to resume again *this morning*.

This is the first time since the office of Chancellor was created in 1836 with the uncontested election of Sir William Cavendish, later Duke of Devonshire, that there has had to be a ballot. All nine *previous Chancellors* have been elected unopposed. The last time that the whole of Convocation was asked to vote, ad*mittedly for the more lowly post* of chairman, only 5,083 ballot papers were returned.

I shall be as surprised as anyone if either Jones or Mandela emerges as the winner, but at least if the Chancellorship is supposed to be the result of a democratic election, it will have been seen as such.

Daggers drawn

Noon, Friday the thirteenth of March. Somebody gets the dagger at noon. Cords tense on the backs of the hands, and jealousy and malice seep invisibly through the minds of our leading crime authors. The *Dagger Award is presented* by crime reviewers annually to the book they vote to have been the best exerciser of the little grey cells, thriller, chiller, thud and blunderer, or work of pure detection, last year.

Some mole in the nasty trade has leaked me the short list. It includes the obvious suspects: Dick Francis, for those who like their crime on horseback; P. D. James, for those who like it with a *frisson* of the Iris Murdochs; Julian Symons; *David Williams; and a pack of* other choice and master/mistress purveyors of crime, with whom the cautious man should surreptitiously swop glasses before drinking.

For those who like a flavour of *vindaloo* with their murder, our own super crime reviewer H. R. F. Keating is on the short list for *The Murder of the Maharajah*, a period piece set in the Thirties to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Collins Crime Club.

The John Creasey Award is given to last year's writer of the best first crime novel. The principal suspects are Alex Auswaks, Liza Cody, Helen Luce and Robert McCrum. If their lives are a tenth as *sinister* as their writing, I expect most of them to fall by the wayside in mysterious circumstances before Friday the Thirteenth.

Double blue

Those of you who appreciate chiasmus will savour a rare and possibly unique illustration in *the field of college headships* at Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

It arises from the appointment of Lord Adrian, professor of cell physiology at Cambridge, as Master of Pembroke College when the classicist William *Camps retires later this year*. The new Master's father, the first Lord Adrian, was Master of Trinity from 1951 to 1965. When he left that post to become vice-chancellor and ultimately chancellor, of Cambridge, he was succeeded at Trinity by Lord Butler. Now Lord Butler's father, Sir Montagu Butler, was once Master of Pembroke.

Neat, you see. It may fuel the suspicion that our senior uni*versities are hothouses of aca*demic incest, but you must agree it makes a change from that wearisome and impenetrable fuss about structuralism.

Most of Cambridge University has written to me to point out that the Oxford University Diary is not alone in getting the date of British Summer Time right this year. Indeed a third ancient institution, the MCC, managed to publish the correct date (March 29) in its diary, in contrast to the majority of commercial diary publishers who have declared the season open a week early. No more, please; we all know now.

Alan Hamilton



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MR REAGAN SEEKS A BALANCE

President Reagan is preparing to ask Congress tomorrow for the most swingeing cuts in public expenditure for many years. This is in line with his campaign commitments and with his whole approach to the task of government. He has promised to increase spending on defence, to cut personal taxation by 10 per cent a year for the first three years, and progressively to reduce the budget deficit.

If he is to stand any chance of achieving all these objectives at once he has to cut public spending in areas other than defence very severely. The temptation for him, and for Congress, is to suppose that it would be all right to curb spending by rather less than would be necessary to pay for the tax cuts in the belief that the extra money in the pockets of the people would so stimulate the economy, and thereby generate extra tax revenue, that the budget could be balanced more easily in subsequent years. But that would not be all right. It is an illusion to imagine that lower taxes would stimulate economic activity as suddenly and as sharply as that. If they were not balanced by spending cuts they would be much more likely to stimulate inflation.

An increase in the budget deficit would also undermine the exchange rate of the dollar, which has been rising in the expectation of just such a package as Mr Reagan is now proposing. International trade no longer depends upon the dollar to the extent that it did, but a fall in the value of the dollar would nonetheless be a disturbing factor at a time when international confidence and stability are uncertain.

In broad strategic terms, therefore, Mr Reagan is right to be taking a tough line. But his approach may still be questioned on two scores. The first is whether his proposals may be so discomfiting that they will not be implemented. Attitudes are, it is true, very different in this Congress from the last one. Democrats as well as Republicans have drawn their conclusions from last November's elections in which there was a pronounced swing to the right in Congressional contests as well as in the race for the White House.

So there will be a tendency towards fiscal conservatism in both parties in Congress. The Budget Committee of the House of Representatives, who were in London last week, made it clear that Democrats and Republicans alike had absorbed one principal lesson from Britain's Thatcher experiment: that it was essential to make whatever spending cuts were necessary right at the beginning of an administration's term of office. Certainly Mrs Thatcher's experience has shown that it is no easier to make them in the second year.

There should therefore be a lively awareness on Capitol Hill as well as in the White House of the danger of whittling away the President's proposed economies one by one, while leaving the level of tax cuts unmolested. The Congressional process for handling public expenditure—which is far superior to that of the House of Commons—should also reduce this danger as it enables decisions on revenue and spending to be taken together. So there is less excuse in Washington than there is at Westminster for ignoring the implications for taxation of changes in expenditure.

Yet the public pressures are bound to be great—especially on members of the House of Representatives, all of whom come up for reelection every two years—to restore some of the cuts proposed by the President. Many of the changes he wants would be very painful. He is hoping to cut areas of social spending that have been left virtually untouched by Mrs Thatcher. This raises the second question mark over Mr Reagan's approach. In his attempt to secure sufficient scope for cutting taxes as well as spending more on defence, without increasing the budget deficit, is he being excessively tough?

There is sufficient evidence of an anecdotal nature to suggest that economies can be made in a number of social programmes without creating additional hardship. But Mr Reagan's proposals go well beyond the elimination of waste. They are bound to affect the standard of living of many of those most in need, and the social consequences could be especially damaging in inner city areas, where there is much unemployment—and much of it among young blacks. The mixture of unemployment, increasing poverty and racial resentment could be explosive.

To say this is not to suggest that President Reagan is wrong to seek major spending cuts. They are essential to his economic strategy and he is right to make them immediately. But Congress would be justified in questioning whether it is either necessary or wise to make such large reductions in taxation at the same time. This is what requires the cuts in expenditure to be so massive in some critical areas as to disturb some of those who support the President in his general strategy.

THE POPE TURNS TO ASIA

topping briefly at Karachi, e begins his Asian tour, Pope ohn Paul referred to the growth f mutual respect between Christians and Muslims. It is a sentiment he may have occasion to epeat during his stay in the hilippines. The Roman Catholic hurch there is the main source f effective opposition to the ruelties, graft and oppression the regime of President arcos and his wife. Christians ive made common cause with e Muslim minority in defence, ainst repression. The Roman atholic hierarchy in the Philipnes is careful to emphasize that is is a pastoral visit by the ope at the invitation of the urch authorities. President arcos, who has electoral conderations in his mind, will aim bask in the popularity of the sit. How far he succeeds partly epends on the pointedness with hich the Pope dilates on abuses human rights and conditions poverty, both endemic to the hilippines and both misfortunes mankind to which the Pope as paid fervent attention.

In Japan, the second of the vo Asian countries included in iis tour, the expectation is that ope Paul will expound on iother preoccupation of his ontificate. the dangers implicit the arms race. He will speak Hiroshima and Nagasaki. One the first Christian churches flourish in Japan in the wake the original Jesuit mission in e mid-sixteenth century was iilt at Nagasaki, and within ity years it was the scene of massacre of Christians. It has ow acquired a more terrible and universal symbolism to heighten the message and the warning that the Pope will declare.

Asia, the most populous part of the world, is the part least penetrated by the missionary activity of Christianity. The Philippine islands are predominantly Roman Catholic as a consequence of the overshadowing colonial job done on them by the Spanish. Elsewhere in Asia the cause of Christianity hardly prospered because the European colonial thrust was weak or temporary, or because the missionaries encountered ancient and developed cultures with their associated religions. These were less susceptible than African or American Indian cultures to the technical proficiency of European missionaries and the religious faith they propagated. The world has now shrunk and religious exclusivity is out of fashion. The Pope arrives in these lost mission grounds not to proselytize but to speak broad truths in the name of all humanity and in the spirit of Wisdom.

The personality of Pope John Paul in conjunction with the grandeur of the claims inherent in his office are enough to gather multitudes for these papal progresses through the countries of the world. At Karachi there was a reminder of the personal danger the Pope runs. The messages he brings are not always popular with his audience, whether the representatives of tyrannical regimes, or priests who have evolved a theology of liberation to the point of endorsing violence, or ecumenists who deplore the rigour of the moral positions he reiterates. The immediate impact of the Pope's itinerant presence is strong, its lasting impact less easily discerned. Meanwhile—and this is the eleventh major tour of his reign — there is some criticism that he neglects to mind the shop at Rome.

The Roman Catholic church was, and still in many of its forms is, an ecclesiastical monarchy in which all authority radiates from the papal throne along the channels of hierarchy and clergy, and mediated by the most august bureaucracy of them all, the Roman Curia. The Second Vatican Council gave emphasis to another strand in the church's traditions. *Lumen Gentium*, the council's dogmatic constitution on the church, transferred much of the weight to the local or national churches, guided by their own bishops and held in unity through communion with Rome. In secular terms the structure is less of delegation, more of federation.

This alternative structure has made little progress in respect of how the church operates, though it has made much progress in respect of how it is conceived by its own members. The present Pope shows little enthusiasm for it, as the experience of the synod of bishops last autumn testifies. He has not yet given the church the reforming attention its structures require. His magnificent peregrinations almost seem to be a substitute for it.

change of name

om Professor Phillipe Devillers

r, As a ninth-century stela vealed, for at least 11 centuries e Khmers have called their untry "Kambuja" or, in other insliteration, "Kampuchea". It is the word that Westerners heard ien arriving there, in the sixenth century, and that they tried figure out in their own language: Portuguese "Camboxa", in anish "Camboja", in English ambodia", in French "Camdge" and, later, in German Kambodscha".

The Khmer and Western names existed, peacefully, until quite cently. In 1945-46 the main newsper in Phnom Penh had a French ition "Cambodge" and a Khmer e "Kampuchea". In 1966, oanouk gave his glossy monthly riew the title "Kambuja", but in 70 he formed his government in king as "Gouvernement Royal Jnion Nationale du Cambodge" RUNC). However, at the same ne, Khieu Samphan and Pol Pot ore "FUNK", ie "Front d'Union tionale du Kampuchea". Henceth, Pol Pot insisted throughout world that his country should designated by everyone with the mer word only, ie "Kampuchea" d, even more specifically, "Democtic Kampuchea", in contrast to "reactionary" one.

is it not surprising to see how British press (but not the nerican one) has surrendered to l Pot's (and, later, to that of the esent Khmer leaders in Phnom nh) arrogant order and now acts if it had just "discovered" that country has "changed" its me in the seventies. Actually it s not, and the use of the word Kampuchea" in the Western ess is seemingly a product either sheer ignorance or of some tist snobism.

Should we, in the West, comtely abandon the name which have used for centuries, to signate the countries we traded th and decide to call every one the word it uses in its own iguage? If so, we must change a in the list of countries.

Are we prepared to say "People's Republic of Polska" for Poland, to call Hungary "Magyarorszag", Korea "Chosen", India "Bharat", the Soviet Union "Sovietski Sojuz", etc? And, in our ignorance, would we go as far as to use English adjectives in combination with those native words, ie to call the Germans "Deutschlandians" the Finns "Suomians" and the Egyptians . . . "Misrables", exactly as you write now "Kampucheans"? It is not better to keep using plain English and to continue simply saying "Cambodia" and "Cambodians"?

Yours sincerely,
PHILIPPE DEVILLERS,
Professor, Southeast Asian Studies,
Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques,
27 rue Saint-Guillaume, Paris.

Mr Paisley's declaration

From Dr H. Montgomery Hyde

Sir, As the official biographer of the late Lord Carson and a former Ulster Unionist MP who sat for the North Belfast constituency which Lord Carson represented at Westminster, may I point out a serious constitutional inaccuracy in the Reverend Ian Paisley's "Declaration" (February 10)?

The Declaration, of which Mr Paisley is the first signatory, is admittedly modelled on the Solemn League and Covenant, although unlike that document it is both inaccurate and cliché-ridden. For instance, it refers to the "material welfare of Ulster" as being allegedly "threatened by a conspiracy hatched at the Thatcher-Haughey Dublin sumit (sic)" with the object of establishing "an ongoing process of all-Ireland integration". It also refers to the other signatories as "men of Ulster, loyal subjects of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II". For some reason there is no mention of women, despite the fact that more women than men signed the 1912 Covenant.

The term Ulster, as distinct from Northern Ireland, is of purely topographical significance. One of the original four provinces of Ireland, Ulster consists of nine counties, of which only six are incorporated in Northern Ireland, as Mr Paisley should know, the remaining three—Donegal, Monaghan and Cavan—forming part of the Republic of Ireland. It is therefore quite wrong to allude to Ulster in the terms that Mr Paisley uses.

Mr Paisley states that he is following what he calls "the Carson trail" and he proposes that the series of "loyalist" rallies which he has planned should terminate beside Lord Carson's statue in the grounds of Stormont Castle. In this he is doing Lord Carson's name a grave disservice. He would do better to heed the advice which Lord Carson gave his Unionist followers when the first Government of Northern Ireland was created in 1922:

From the outset let us see that the Catholic minority have nothing to fear from the Protestant majority. Let us take care to win all that is best among those who have been opposed to us in the past. Whilst maintaining intact our own religion let us give the same rights to the religion of our neighbours.

Unfortunately that is something that the bigoted Paisleyites have never been able to bring themselves to do.

Lord Carson's surviving son, the Hon Edward Carson, has read this letter and he authorizes me to state that he wholeheartedly agrees with it.

Yours faithfully,
H. MONTGOMERY HYDE,
Westwell House,
Tenterden, Kent.

Smoke and smother

From Mr John Daniell

Sir, If fumes and gasses are the major killers in today's fires (Las Vegas hotel fire report, February 12) should not gas masks be readily available in such locations as multistorey hotels, theatres, etc?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DANIELL,
7 Bear Lane,
Henley-in-Arden,
Solihull, West Midlands.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SAS conduct in embassy siege

From the Attorney General

Sir, Mr Bruce Harris (February 16) expresses concern about the conduct of the SAS (Special Air Service Regiment) at the end of the Iranian Embassy siege but he has his facts wrong. May I deal with some of the more serious mistakes?

He said that it is curious that no members of the SAS team gave evidence at the inquest although he refers to your reports of February 4 and 5, the earlier of which clearly describes how two members of the SAS appeared in civilian dress when they gave evidence.

He is puzzled about the comments of prosecuting counsel at the end of the trial of the surviving terrorist when your report makes it clear that the defendant's change of plea to guilty came before the prosecution had called all its witnesses. Clearly counsel was seeking to correct the impression, which others may share with Mr Harris, that the witnesses who had given evidence had said all that there was to be said about the events of that day.

Mr Harris says that the statement by a soldier that a terrorist "made some movement with his hand which I considered a direct threat" is vague in the extreme. In your report of his evidence the soldier, in fact, said: "In his hand was a pistol and ammunition and he made some movement of his hand . . ." I regret that Mr Harris gives the impression of being so selective in his choice of facts.

Your Parliamentary report (February 9) bore the headline, "Embassy rescue; SAS not given immunity" and accurately reports me as saying: "The evidence was reviewed by the DPP and by me. There was no evidence upon which proceedings in relation to the deaths of these terrorists could be justified". I can assure Mr Harris that the Director and myself in considering whether to institute criminal proceedings against members of the SAS applied the same criteria which we apply generally and that there was no question of special rules for the SAS.

Finally, since Mr Harris says that I failed to give a categorical answer to the parliamentary question, I can assure him that neither the Home Secretary nor I approved "any immunity from prosecution or any order for summary execution" in this attack on the terrorists holding the hostages in the embassy.

Your faithfully,
MICHAEL HAVERS,
Royal Courts of Justice, WC2.
February 16.

Family matters

From Dr Margaret White

Sir, Lady Grantchester (February 9) asks what sort of counselling young girls receive before they are prescribed the oral contraceptive. The Concise Oxford Dictionary defines counsel as "advise, recommend", and counsellor as "adviser". This definition bears no relationship to counselling as practised today.

I attended a government-funded course on the subject and discovered that counselling means helping the "client" to decide what she wants, and when she has done so, to provide it for her. I was told that it is wrong to give her information she needs to know to help her make up her mind, unless she specifically asks.

Thus it is quite wrong to tell a girl of 13 the medical and psychological risks of premature sexual intercourse.

It is also considered wrong to give any warning to the child of the possible dangers of the pill, even though many doctors consider it should never be given to children because of the additional side effects on the young of the contraceptive steroids. Many counsellors insist that to tell a "client" that sexual intercourse with a girl under 16 is illegal would be moralizing, and therefore quite wrong.

Not long ago a family planning nurse interviewed on television said, "I've seen a 12-year-old girl put on the pill in 10 minutes flat". I sincerely hope that such a case was exceptional—but I doubt it.

Yours truly,
MARGARET WHITE,
22, Upfield,
Croydon.
February 11.

Specializing on skis

From Mr J. Dyson Taylor

Sir, In Sportsview (February 7) John Hennessy, discussing ski-racing, does not mention the anatomical barrier facing any modern racer who wishes to excel in all three Alpine events, as those glorious skiers (to mention only three) Sailer, Killy and Schranz managed to do in the past.

Imagine trying to drive a Metro down a bumpy, undulating, curving mountain road with gradients of one in three at an average speed of nearly 80 mph. What sort of suspension would you need to stay on your wheels? A skier's legs are his suspension and for downhill racing they need to be like two oaks, and for every fractional increase in speed they need a geometric increase in strength.

On the contrary, a slalom racer needs legs and a torso with the flexibility of a ballet dancer. International ski races are expensive to organize and the promoters depend on the revenue from television and the spectators, and if men's downhill races are slowed down the interest will decrease (see the comparative lack of interest in women's downhill races compared to men's).

But at this time asking male downhill racers to win both downhill and slalom is like trying to train a runner to win a gold medal in the 100 metres and also in the marathon. The physical demands of the downhill giant slalom and the giant slalom/slalom are sufficiently similar for an exceptional racer to be able to excel in two of the Alpine disciplines, but the combination downhill/slalom makes impossible physical demands.

Yours faithfully,
J. DYSON TAYLOR,
Hausstattfeld 7/B,
Kitzbühel,
Austria.
February 10.

Soviet attitude on 'exporting revolution'

From Dr A. Shtromas

Sir, I should like to point out that Brian Thomas (February 6) was wrong when he tried to present the quotation from Stalin's interview with Roy Howard (published in *Pravda* on March 5, 1936) as a definitive statement on Soviet foreign policy. In fact, this quotation is rather an odd exception among Soviet official statements on their international goals almost all of which, after, indeed, renouncing the "export of revolution" as inadmissible, pledge full support of the USSR for the revolutionary movements and ventures in Western countries (two years later Stalin himself made, by the way, such a pledge in the party's magazine, *Bolshevik*, no 2, February, 1938).

Contrary to Mr Thomas, I would maintain that the definitive statement on Soviet foreign policy was made by Brezhnev in his report to the twenty-fifth Congress of the CPSU in February, 1976 (ie, in the heyday of détente), the essence of which was aptly summarized by a leading article in *Pravda* (May 1, 1976) in the following words: "The Soviet people are always ready to help all other peoples in their struggle for justice, freedom and social progress."

One could also regard as such a definitive statement the text of article 28, in chapter 4, of the new (1977) Soviet Constitution which, in contrast to what Mr Thomas has said about it, unambiguously declares that "the USSR's foreign policy is aimed at . . . strengthening the positions of world socialism, supporting the people's struggle for national liberation and social progress . . .".

Indeed, President Reagan was absolutely right when he, at his first press conference on January 29, intimated that, at least in this respect, Soviet words have always matched their actions.

Yours faithfully,
A. SHTROMAS,
Crescent House,
The University,
Salford,
Lancashire.
February 9.

From Mr Avtandil Rukhadze

Sir, General Haig's statement (January 29) that the Soviet Union is involved in "international terrorism" is proof not only of his undisguised anti-Sovietism, but another step towards eroding détente and aggravating Soviet-US relations.

Certainly, one cannot demand that the American State Secretary should be well versed in the questions of theory and practice of communism. But having at his disposal a whole crowd of competent and not so competent "Sovietologists", who earn not only their daily bread with their "works" on communism and Soviet policy, Mr Haig could have easily got from any more or less conscientious of these "experts" an assurance that Marxist-Leninists, which Soviet communists are, have always repudiated theoretically and practically all varieties of terrorism in their strategy and tactics.

Karl Marx wrote ". . . terror is mostly useless brutality committed for their own calm by people who themselves feel fear."

At the turn of the century Lenin sharply condemned the terror tactics which were adopted by the socialist-revolutionaries in Russia.

Lenin argued that assassinations of Tsars, grand dukes or high-ranking officials would not alter the political and social system in Russia: ". . . in practice the terrorism of the socialist-revolutionaries is nothing else than single combat, a method that has been wholly condemned by the experience of history".

Soon after socialist-revolutionaries killed a Tsarist minister, Lenin emphasised: "The very success of this terrorist act bears out all the more strikingly the experience of the entire history of the Russian revolutionary movement, which warns us against such methods of struggle and terrorism".

In February, 1908, in connection with the assassination of the King of Portugal, Lenin wrote that terrorism "essentially fails to achieve its purpose".

By rejecting terrorism, Marxist-Leninists have always proceeded from the principle that only through a revolution of the working people, through mass armed struggle, or with support on the part of the broad masses in the country can the toiling classes achieve a change in the political and social system in their favour.

As an authoritative Tass statement says, the "Soviet Union has always been and remains a principled opponent of the theory and practice of terrorism, including in international relations", and that "Terrorism is organically alien to the world outlook of the Soviet people and to the policy of the Soviet state" stands on firm historical and political grounds. This at least should have been known to the US Secretary of State.

Yours sincerely,
AVTANDIL RUKHADZE,
c/o Novosti Press Agency,
4 Zubovsky Boulevard,
Moscow,
USSR.
February 9.

From Professor Leon Lipson

Sir, Neither President Reagan (speech, January 29) nor Brian Thomas (letter, February 6) has got quite right the tenor of Soviet leaders' statements about world revolution. Those have oscillated for over 60 years in response to internal Soviet politics, international alliances and coalitions, and current tactics of propaganda for well and ill-wishers abroad.

For example, Mr Thomas quotes Stalin (1936) as saying "the export of revolution is nonsense". That statement, made for effect during the period of the United Front, has a history beyond what Mr Thomas traces.

In 1961 or 1962 Mr Suslov, the chief ideologist of the party, made a speech which, as reported in *Pravda*, did duly reprobate "the export of revolution and of counter-revolution". Yet when the speech was reprinted in *Kommunist* a few weeks later, the words "of revolution and" had been deleted, probably from galley-proofs: the remaining words of the sentence were spaced far apart. The deletion may have been ordered by someone conscious of the ostentatiously militant Chinese communists looking over his shoulder.

I suggest, Sir, that in Soviet intention words are not expressions, but moves.

Faithfully yours,
LEON LIPSON,
Endsleigh Court,
Upper Woburn Place, WC1.
February 6.

American music

From Professor Peter Dickinson

Sir, Bernard Levin (February 5) dismisses 200 years of American music as of no consequence, apart from the composers of musicals and popular songs.

He is wrong to do this. Aaron Copland is not a third-rate composer and several of the others he mentions disparagingly are widely performed throughout the world. He is also wrong in denigrating Samuel Barber, who died last month—he was an excellent songwriter and many of his other works remain in the repertory.

The difficulties the best modern American composers have in establishing themselves with the larger public are the same as those of modern composers generally. And we must remember that from an international point of view the last 200 years of American music—even so-called serious music—may seem more productive than the same period in British music.

Above all, the richness and variety of all types of American music—black and white, popular and serious—are a continually rewarding and fascinating phenomenon, fully worthy of the traditions of a great country.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DICKINSON,
Music Department,
University of Keele,
Keele,
Staffordshire.

South Africa's Bushmen

From Dr Alison Jolly

Sir, Nicholas Ashford's article (February 9) on the battalions of Kalahari Bushmen who are fighting for South Africa does not mention one of the saddest ironies of the situation. The Kung Bushmen of the Kalahari were one of the few non-violent human cultures. They settled disputes with neighbours simply by shifting camp to another waterhole. They did not fight each other in groups; bands of 20 to 85 people had traditional hunting and gathering territories, but non-allied bands were not considered enemies, just more distant kin.

Bushmen sometimes stole cattle from the racially and culturally different Bantu herdsmen, but for at least 20 years there was only one murder, and that was in a dispute over women, not cattle.

The South Africans who bring the Bushmen the benefits of our society are not just bringing beer, army boots, needlework and Christianity. They are teaching peaceful people how civilized Christians kill.

ALISON JOLLY,
School of Cultural and Community Studies,
University of Sussex,
Brighton,
Sussex.
February 9.

Safe and sound

From Mrs Judith Thompson

Sir, My reaction, when my son received a kidney donor card with his provisional licence, was rather different from Mr Cuttle's (February 9).

The inclusion had on him a sobering effect, which I, despite many warnings, had been quite unable to produce, and I welcomed it.

Yours faithfully,
JUDITH THOMPSON,
10 Hall Walk,
Welton, Brough,
East Yorkshire.

Heritage in danger

From Dr A. J. Taylor

Sir, Mr Hague's letter (February 6) compels me to hasten to point out that the issues are far too serious and urgent for recollecting the pleasantries of times gone by.

Mr Hague does, however, write from Wales. My earlier letter (January 31) referred solely to England, where of course the four closures cited are only a tithe of those already effected or threatened. Owing to the degree of devolution quietly carried out de facto by administrative action over the last few years, I could not speak for Wales or Scotland, but one may doubt if the situation in either is essentially better. Indeed in regard to the labour force I believe that in Wales it is substantially worse.

Meanwhile during this present week news reaches me from Rome of the Government's impending withdrawal from the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM): a dubious economy even in the narrowest financial terms, since Britain's contribution to ICCROM, currently a mere $65,000, is offset by the United Kingdom's annual receipt of about $170,000 in salaries and other benefits to British citizens.

ICCROM was created by Unesco in 1959. Britain has provided its first and its present distinguished directors (ie two out of three) as well as two presidents of the general assembly and lecturers to ICCROM courses. The cultural arguments for United Kingdom representation in ICCROM are overwhelming, as it has enabled the British viewpoint to be represented, through our participation in the activities of the Rome Centre, in the worldwide field of conservation of cultural property.

As Mr Curl so acutely observes (February 7), the Trade Descriptions Act should apply to political parties. Not least is this so when they set out to undermine (and will end up by destroying) this country's standing in the international field in matters which have hitherto been wholly apolitical. Perhaps this was one of the things against which Mr St John-Stevas protested.

Needless to add, the extinction of our part in ICCROM has been set in motion sub rosa: although (? because) the present president of the general council is also the United Kingdom representative (he also serves on the finance and programme committee), he has been at no stage consulted. Of the attempt to push through the closure of the Chancery Lane search rooms without any prior consultation with the Lord Chancellor's statutory Advisory Council on Public Records.

We bow our heads.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. TAYLOR,
Rose Cottage,
Lincoln's Hill,
Chiddingfold, Surrey.

Presentation of Cabinet policy

From the Chairman of the Conservative Party

Sir, I have read your leader, "Not with one voice" (February 16) with interest and instruction. I make no complaint about it. I have been too long in politics to assume that all members of a Cabinet think the same thing about everything, still less that they say what they think in the same way. Nevertheless I am interested that you should have sought to draw the differences in interpretation and presentation of policy which you did between the Prime Minister on the one hand and Mr Pym and myself upon the other.

Your arguments were naturally ingenious but to anyone who actually heard the speech would have been unconvincing.

Margaret Thatcher held out to the Young Conservatives the vision of a world strongly defended, secure, free, responsible. Of course she has strong convictions. Thank heavens for it. Of course she acknowledged that the path from where we are to where we want to get to, is one with many obstacles upon it and demands a degree of pragmatism along the way.

The ovation which she received from the Young Conservatives, many of them drawn from the hard-hit areas of the industrial North, was more than the formality accorded to a party leader: it was from the heart. In what is still a very rough situation, in the middle of world recession, with industries still fighting their way back to a competitive condition, she showed the mixture of common sense, of courage and of compassion which that audience, and indeed the country, now demands.

Conviction and pragmatism are not alternatives in politics, they are mutual necessities.

Yours,
THORNEYCROFT,
Conservative & Unionist Central Office,
32 Smith Square,
Westminster, SW1.
February 16.

Liberal welcome

From Mr Christopher Mayhew

Sir, Geoffrey Smith (February 13) overlooks one important element in the Liberal attitude to the social democrats. While welcoming their belated decision to defect, many of us find it hard to forget, completely and at once, their miserable preceding record. For almost a decade they "fudged and smudged", compromising with the enemies of democracy, denigrating our party and voting against policies we passionately supported.

However, they are now showing such courage, and their statements have so much in common with ours, that these feelings will certainly pass. After discussing David Steel's strategy at many Liberal meetings recently, including meetings of the party council and national executive, I am convinced that while some of our hardest working activists still have doubts about it, the great majority of party members support it enthusiastically.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MAYHEW,
39 Wool Road,
Wimbledon, SW20.
February 13.

From Mr David Watson

Sir, Miss Sue Slipman, the former president of the National Union of Students, has left the Communist Party to join the new Council for Social Democracy (report, February 12). She says in the *Morning Star*: "My politics have not changed—I have not become a right-winger."

If Miss Slipman intends to be the first unreformed communist to infiltrate the social democrats she should be told very firmly that she is not welcome.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID WATSON,
80 Milton Road,
Clapham,
Bedford.
February 12.

Seeing red

From Mr W. J. Strachan

Sir, Although the scheme to repaint our red telephone kiosks yellow is at an experimental stage, may I raise one voice against any replacement of "pillar-box red", quickly identifiable and aesthetically pleasing (the "red note" beloved of Constable against a country background) by village greens and an agreeable contrast against most building materials in urban settings.

We have had enough yellow with those bright double yellow lines spoiling (if of necessity) lovely village streets such as those—to take one example—at Polruan in Cornwall. Before one more pot of yellow paint is flung in the face of the public at our expense (77,000 kiosks), let us close ranks in protest.

Yours faithfully,
W. J. STRACHAN,
10 Pleasant Road,
Bishop's Stortford,
Hertfordshire.
February 11.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 16: The Duke of Edinburgh, President of The Duke of Edinburgh's Commonwealth Study Conference, this evening at Buckingham Palace presided at a meeting of Group Chairmen from Canada.

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Margaret Bridges, late wife of Lieutenant-Colonel E. R. Bridges, RM, Under-Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn, will be held in Lincoln's Inn Chapel, WC2, on Thursday, March 12, 1981, at 5 pm.

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir James Martin will be held on Wednesday, February 25, at noon at the Church of St Clement Danes, Strand.

A gala performance of *Cats*, in aid of Kids, will be held on April 23 at the New London Theatre.

Birthdays today

Mr John Allegro, 58; Mr Alan Bates, 47; Sir Eric Clayson, 73; the Earl of Elgin, 57; Lord Foot, 72; Lord Kearton, 70; General Sir John Mogg, 68; Sir Orby Mootham, 80; Professor Claire Palley, 50; Mr T. C. Ravensdale, 76.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon Frederick Hamilton and Miss E. A. Tredinnick
The engagement is announced between Frederick, son of Lord Belhaven and Stenton, of Tighcargaman, Islay, Argyll, and of Ann Lady Belhaven and Stenton, of 15 Duke Street, Sydney, Australia, and Elizabeth Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. V. Tredinnick, of Naldretts Court, Wisborough Green, Sussex.

Mr J. D. Crossman and Miss J. M. Ritchie
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of the late Captain J. D. Crossman, CBE, Royal Navy, and of Mrs J. D. Crossman, of Upland Park Road, Oxford, and Julia, daughter of Dr and Mrs B. W. T. Ritchie, of High Close House, Wylam, Northumberland.

Mr M. S. Sethi and Miss C. A. G. Buxton
The engagement is announced between Mandhir Singh, son of Sardar and Sardarni Mehar Singh Sethi, of Chandigarh, India, and Charlotte Anne, daughter of Lieutenant Commander and Mrs Gerard Buxton, of Pitteadie House, by Kirkcaldy, Fife.

Mr M. G. C. Toller and Miss A. C. McGregor
The engagement is announced between Mark, eldest son of Captain and Mrs Charles Toller, of Little Rissington, Gloucestershire, and Anna, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Alastair McGregor, of Walkerville, South Australia.

Mr J. D. M. Wardell and Miss L. M. Joly de Lotbinière
The engagement is announced between John David Meredith, only son of Mr John Wardell, of Ripley, Surrey, and Mrs Lettice Lachelin, of The Mere, Merstham, Surrey, and Lucy Miranda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Toby Joly de Lotbinière, of Barmoor House, Bletchingley, Surrey.

Today's engagements

The Queen holds investiture, 11.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as senior fellow, chairs Fellowship of Engineering's annual general meeting, St James's Palace, 10.15; as president of Royal Society of Arts, presides at meeting of committee for the environment, John Adam Street, Adelphi, 2.30.

The Prince of Wales visits offices of *The Economist*, 25 St James's Street, 12; as president, attends reception in aid of Mary Rose Trust, Porter Tun Room, Whitbread's Brewery, Chiswell Street, 6; attends concert given by English Chamber Orchestra, Festival Hall, 8.

Princess Anne, as patron of National Union of Townswomen's Guilds, attends BBC national embroidery competition, Debenham's, Oxford Street, 2.30.

The Duke of Gloucester attends annual dinner of Chartered Institute of Building, Guildhall, 6.55.

The Duchess of Kent opens sports hall and community centre, Reynolds High School, Acton, 2.15.

Talks: "Towards a more natural civilization", New Acropolis Centre, 68B Upper Street, Islington, 8; "Has economic theory created the economic crisis", by John Eatwell, Polytechnic of North London, 2; An evening with Nobby Clark, City of London and Cripplegate Photographic Society, 12 Wilson Street, 6.30; "How does a television programme get set up?" by Michael Grade, National Film Theatre, 12.30; "Aspects of Russian foreign policy, 1815-1914", by Dr G. H. Bolsover, Pushkin Club, 46 Ladbroke Grove, Bayswater, 7.30; "Queen Victoria and the state portrait", by Richard Ormond, National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, 1; "Working for yourself: the pleasures and pitfalls", a talk for musicians and actors by John Wilson, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, 5; "Enemies of Pharaoh: the Hittites", 11.30, and "Living Aten, lord of eternity", 1.15, both by George Hart, British Museum.

Exhibition: Picasso graphics, original prints, 1904 to 1973, French Institute, Queensberry Place, Kensington, 10 to 8.

Flower show: RHS Hall, Vincent Square, Westminster, 11 to 6.

Visiting ship: HMS Argonaut berths alongside HMS Belfast, by Tower Bridge, 1.45.

Chairman of GLC is host to council day luncheon, 12.45.

Lunchtime music: Alison Pearce, soprano, Lawrence Wallington, bass-baritone, Fairfield Hall, Croydon, 1.05; City Music Society, Bishopsgate Hall, 1.05; Rachel Masters, harp, Paul Edmund Davies, flute, Holborn Library Hall, 1.05; Richard Copley, organ, St Peter-upon-Cornhill, 12.30.

Scholarships in the Royal Navy

The following candidates have been declared successful in the 35th Royal Navy/Royal Marines scholarship and reserved place competition:

ROYAL NAVY SCHOLARSHIPS
S. L. J. Billinge, W Somerset S, Minehead; I. A. Canavan, Castlehead HS, Paisley; R. Colbourine, Portsmouth GS; T. J. Couling, Eastbourne VI Form C; M. D. Croft, Pangbourne C; D. R. Ellis, Ipswich S; M. R. Gill, High Storrs Comp S, Sheffield; G. M. Gillan, Ayr Acad; I. F. Graham, D. Stoward's and Melville C, Edinburgh; R. J. Hall, Waingels Copse S, Reading; J. V. B. Hayes, Queen's C, Taunton; I. C. Hogg, Chingford Sen HS; G. B. Hutchison, Hutcheson's GS, Glasgow; A. C. Jameson, Uppingham S; P. E. Jessop, St John's Comp S, Marlborough; P. D. Jordan, Ivybridge Comp S, Devon; D. W. Jory, Sherborne S; A. M. Leigh, Wellington S, Somerset; M. J. Lemon, K Edward VI S, Norwich; S. J. Mannion, Arnold S, Blackpool; K. F. O'Sullivan, St Boniface's C, Plymouth; L. D. Smallman, Kirkley HS, Lowestoft; C. M. Streeten, City of London S; M. J. D. Walliker, Oundle; M. J. Webb, Q Elizabeth's GS, Blackburn; T. J. L. Williamson, The King's School, Canterbury.

ROYAL MARINE SCHOLARSHIPS
T. J. Bevis, The King's S, Chester.

ROYAL NAVY RESERVED PLACES
M. P. C. Allen, Oxford S; G. M. Barr, Dauntsey's S; S. M. Barrand, Mayfield Comp S, Portsmouth; B. J. Bathurst, Eton; M. J. D. Beardall, RGS, High Wycombe; A. J. Beer, Bishop Vesey's GS, Sutton Coldfield; J. M. G. St Bickley, Cheltenham; S. P. Blake, Bedford S, Bedford; C. D. Boardman, Manchester GS; G. H. Brailsford, Bancroft's S, Woodford Green; P. A. Burlingham, Belmont Acad, Ayr; P. Y. Calverley, Warwick S; H. B. Clarke, Bembridge S, Isle of Wight; J. F. Coleman, Sir J. Smith's S, Camelford; M. C. Cornish, St Boniface's C, Plymouth; J. R. Courtliff, Byrchmall HS, Ashton-in-Makerfield; N. G. Couzens, Ex Clark's GS, Clifton; T. J. Datham, Parkside Commty C, Cambridge; J. H. Davies, Monmouth S; M. J. Dorrell, Sir H. Floyd's S, Aylesbury; A. J. Elliott, Portchester Boys S, Bournemouth; C. E. Fenton, Notting HS; M. J. Flynn, Hayfield Comp S, Doncaster; D. M. Ford, Colston's S, Stapleton; P. J. Frankham, J. Ruskin HS, Croydon; G. C. Frost, Bedford Mod S; C. R. Fulton, Reigate GS; G. T. Griffin, Central High, Manchester; M. J. Harris, Redruth S; J. M. Hawke, J. of Gaunt S, Trowbridge; M. A. J. Hawkins, Card Langley S, Manchester; J. A. Helmann, Pangbourne C; C. A. Hooper, London Naut S; A. D. John, Backwell Comp S, Bristol; A. R. Johns, Petersfield S; T. A. Johnston, Trinity Sec S, Carlisle; S. C. Kellett, Dingwall Acad, Ross-shire; M. A. D. King, St T Moore S, Bournemouth; A. M. Lamb, Guernsey GS; A. E. R. Lochrane, RGS, Worcester; M. P. Lockyer, King's GS, Grantham; S. R. McQuaker, Edinburgh Acad; J. R. Marshall, Portsmouth GS; B. R. Mason, Heart of England S, Balsall Common; S. T. Moriarty, Bury GS; J. S. T. Nelson, Beechen Cliff S, Bath; M. K. Osbourne, St Anne's S, Fareham; N. S. P. Ovenden, Harvey GS, Folkestone; C. D. Pillar, Queen's C, Taunton; S. P. Porter, R Hosp S, Ipswich; N. Radford, Shirebrook Comp, nr Mansfield; S. N. Randall, Tapton Hall S, Chesterfield; M. C. Shaw, St Paul's S, Barnes; J. Sheffield, Oakham S, Rutland; R. G. Shepherd, Q Elizabeth's S, Faversham; J. A. Shuttleworth, Pangbourne C; P. Turpie, Ex-Trinity C, Glenalmond; M. P. Wareham, Pangbourne C; M. G. Waring, St Edmund's S, Canterbury; P. G. [illegible] Watson, Strathallan S, Forgandenny, Perthshire; A. J. Williams, Culford S, Bury St Edmunds; M. A. Wilson, Hautlieu S, St Saviour; S. H. Window, Finchley Catholic HS; S. P. Winterbottom, Crompton House C of E Comp S, Shaw, Oldham; R. M. Wilmond, Chatham House GS, Ramsgate.

ROYAL MARINE RESERVED PLACES
A. I. Adams, Leeds GS; C. N. Bond, Eltham C; [illegible], Nottingham, London; C. J. C. Chapple, Lancing C; S. L. Farmer, Downside S; S. J. R. James, Rugby.

Keen bids for historic glass made in Northern Europe

Tumbler dated 1614 makes £6,500

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

Glass of German interest attracted the keenest competition in Sotheby's sale of English and *Continental glass yesterday*.

A richly enamelled tumbler, or *Reichsadlerhumpen*, decorated with the Hapsburg imperial double-headed eagle and the shields of the members of the Holy Roman Empire, made £6,500 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000). It is dated 1614 and Sotheby's cataloguer was uncertain whether it came from Germany or Bohemia.

There were two *façon-de-Venise* goblets, products of Northern Europe made in the Venetian style, and both cold painted (decoration after cooling), although much of the painting had flaked off.

Nevertheless, one goblet was sold for £2,100 (estimate £2,000 to £3,000) and the other for £2,400 (estimate £1,500 to £2,500). The decoration of both goblets had been copied from a volume of woodcuts first published in 1578. They are thought to date from the late sixteenth century and to have been made either at Hall-in-Tyrol, an outpost of Venetian glassmaking, or at a little known Munich glasshouse.

A group of seven German glass pieces, however, dated to the fifteenth century, were all unsold. A beaker with a blue trail rim was bought in at £1,200, having been estimated at £4,000 to £5,000.

The English glass reached prices much in line with expectations, though there were few surprises. Delomosne paid £720 (estimate £500 to £700) for a colour twist wine glass of about 1760. The sale totalled £86,038, with 12 per cent unsold.

Christie's sold collectors' cars and vintage aircraft in Los Angeles on Sunday, with the usual rather mixed result. People tend to have big ideas about the value of their old cars which cannot always be matched at auction.

In this case 38 per cent of the £284,291 total was unsold. A 1939 Packard 12 made the top price at $110,000 (estimate $80,000 to $90,000), or £47,826. It is a four-door, seven-passenger, formal town car and probably cost its first owner at least $7,500, or about £3,200.

There were two planes in the sale, one failing to find a buyer. The other, a 1938 de Havilland 94 Moth Minor, a two-seat monoplane, made $28,000 (estimate $20,000 to $25,000) or £12,173.

Sotheby's sale of antiquities yesterday totalled £33,388, with 9 per cent unsold.

Reception

Prime Minister
The Prime Minister and Mr Denis Thatcher were hosts at a reception held at 10 Downing Street yesterday evening. Among those present were:

The Duke and Duchess of Richmond and Gordon, the Earl and Countess of Inchcape, the Dowager Viscountess Davidson, Viscount de L'Isle, VC, and Viscountess de L'Isle, the Bishop of London and Mrs Ellison, the Bishop of Ely and Mrs Walker, Lord and Lady Boardman, Lord and Lady Winstanley, the Hon Alistair and Mrs McAlpine, Sir Harry Llewellyn, Sir Rolf and Lady Dudley-Williams, Sir Peter Hall, Sir Kenneth and Lady Corfield, His Honour Sir Carl and Lady Aarvold, Major-General Sir Brian and Lady Wyldbore-Smith, Sir Tatton and Lady Brinton, Sir Ian and the Hon Lady Bowater.

Professor Sir Max and Lady Beloff, Mr Henry Moore, OM, and Mrs Moore, Mr J. B. Priestley, OM, and Mrs Priestley, Mr and Mrs Norman Hepple, Mr J. T. Hayes, Mr and Mrs Brinsley Ford, Mr and Mrs William Manchester, Mr and Mrs Kenneth More, Mrs Donald Sinden, Mr and Mrs Bernie Winters, Mr and Mrs Monty Modlyn, Mr R. S. Wilkins, Mr T. L. Tait, Mr and Mrs L. R. Mann, Mr and Mrs Russell Evans, Mr and Mrs Melville Johnston, Mr and Mrs R. G. Hooker, Mr and Mrs Ian Findlay, Mr and Mrs G. T. Holdsworth, Mr and Mrs P. A. Learmond, Mr John Cohen, Mr Cobb Stenham.

Mr Jonathan Heynes, Mr and Mrs Raymond Slater, Major-General and Mrs J. R. Reynolds, Mr and Mrs John Arlott, Mr and Mrs Eddie Waring, Mr and Mrs John Rae, Mr and Mrs Ian Beer, Mr and Mrs Dennis Silk, Captain and Mrs M. B. Wingate, Mr and Mrs George Christie, Mr and Mrs Tom Hunt, Mr Martin Wassell, Major and Mrs Michael Pope, Mr and Mrs Michael Constantinidi, Mr and Mrs Meyrick Browne, Mr and Mrs Alan Smith, Miss Anna Butcher, Mr and Mrs Roland Wade, Mr Eddie Hamilton, Mrs R. [illegible] Daunton, Mr and Mrs Tim Coles, Miss Jilly Cooper, Mr Alastair Burnet, Miss Anna Ford, Mr D. Silverman, Mr George Gale, Mr and Mrs Edward Pearce, Mr Charles Macgregor.

Mr and Mrs John Graves, Mr and Mrs John Lyons, Mr and Mrs Leif Mills, Mr Hector Monro, MP, Mr Michael Marshall, MP, and Mrs Marshall, Mr Norman Lamont, MP, and Mrs Lamont, Mr William Shelton, MP, and Mrs Shelton, Mr Fergus Montgomery, MP, and Mrs Montgomery, Mr Robert Dunn, MP, and Mrs Dunn, Mr John Butcher, MP, and Mrs Butcher, Mr Peter Emery, MP, and Mrs Emery, Mr Michael Colvin, MP, and Mrs Colvin, Mr John Major, MP, Mr John Townend, MP, and Mrs Townend, Mr and Mrs Swraj Paul, Mr and Mrs Jay Gohel, Mr and Mrs Mehendra Kaul, Mr and Mrs Mota Singh, Dr Aziz Pasha, Mr Robin Hodgson, Mr and Mrs Andrew McKay, Mr and Mrs Tim Smith, Councillor and Mrs David Dell, Councillor and Mrs Sydney Moss, Councillor Mrs M. Paffill, Councillor and Mrs Alan Hope.

Mr A. Rumbold and Councillor Mrs Rumbold, Councillor and Mrs T. F. Lavin, Mr and Mrs Simon Ashton, Mr and Mrs Michael Craig-Cooper, Mr and Mrs George Hutchinson, Mr and Mrs Ken Boardman, Mr Joe Barnard, Mr and Mrs Gyde Horrocks, Major and Mrs Maurice Jewell, Mr and Mrs M. Benjamin, Miss Peggy Metcalfe, Mr Ian Gow, MP, and Mrs Gow, Mr and Mrs David Wolfson, Mr Bernard Ingham, Mr Michael Alexander, Mr and Mrs Tim Lankester, Mr and Mrs Nick Sanders, Mr and Mrs Mike Pattison, Miss Caroline Stephens and Miss Teresa Rolleston.

Luncheon

HM Government
Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, was host at a luncheon at Admiralty House yesterday given in honour of the Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister for Economic *Affairs, Dr Abdul Razek Abdul* Meguid. Among those present were:

The Ambassador of Egypt, Earl Jellicoe, Mr J. Hlovcidge, Mr M. Ward, Mr J. L. Kirby, Mr C. W. McMahon, Mr R. Williams and Mr A. K. C. Wood.

Surplus eggs: Sister Mary (left) and Sister Paul, Poor Clares nuns of St Joseph's convent, York, on their way to sell for charity surplus eggs produced by the convent's 150 hens and bantams.

Dinners

HM Government
Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was host at a dinner given at 1 Carlton Gardens last night in honour of M Pierre Aigrain, Secretary of State for Research of the French Republic.

Farmers' Company
The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual livery dinner of the Farmers' Company at the Mansion House yesterday. The Master, Mr C. G. Metson, presided, assisted by the Senior Warden, Mr M. H. *Hinton*, and the *Junior Warden*, Sir Charles Graham. The Lord Mayor, the Senior Warden, Judge Edward Clarke, QC, and the Master were the speakers. Among others present were:
The High Commissioner for St Lucia, Mr Alderman C. Leaver, the president and chairman of the Farmers' Club and the Masters of the Bakers', Poulters' and Solicitors' companies and their ladies.

Hunterian Festival
The Lord Mayor of Westminster was present at a dinner given by Sir Alan Parks, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and the council at the college yesterday. The speakers were the president, Sir Roger Ormrod, and Mr Howard Hanley, senior vice-president. The other guests were trustees of the Hunterian Collection, members of the court of patrons and the fund-raising committee of the college, and Sir Reginald Murley, who had earlier delivered the 1981 Hunterian Oration entitled "Peace and Strife in Hunter's Time".

England and Scotland in bridge wins

By Our Bridge Correspondent
England beat Wales by 19 to 17 at Croydon and Scotland beat *Northern Ireland* by a similar margin at Perth in the second round of the home countries bridge international series for the Camrose Cup.

Wales started in splendid form, drawing the first match 6—6 and winning the second by 8—4.

In the third match the lead changed hands five times in the first 10 boards.

After an expensive revoke by one of the Welsh players and a *bad defence, costing four tricks* in a contract of two spades doubled, England recovered their form to win 9—3. Their lead at the top of the table remains unaltered at five victory points.

Scotland too failed to produce *their best form and in a match of* mistakes could manage a win by only the narrowest of margins (7—5, 7—5, 5—7).

The standings are:
England 43, Scotland 38, Wales 34, Northern Ireland 29.

Teams:
England: R. A. Priday, C. Rodrigue; Miss N. Gardener, M. E. Dilks; J. D. R. Collins, G. N. Breskal; non-playing captain, R. S. Brock. Scotland: W. Mitchell, R. Bennett; G. Cuthbertson, G. Haase; R. Benstead, M. Sudlic; non-playing captain, C. D. Bowman. Wales: P. D. Jourdain, Dr E. Martin; M. N. Hirst, D. McAndrew; A. Pierce, A. Casey; non-playing captain, C. C. Smith.

Stratford congress: More than 500 players competed in the Stratford-on-Avon Waddington Bridge Congress last weekend.

The main event, the Waddington *Rose Bowl, was won by the scratch* pair of K. E. Stanley (Worcestershire) and P. Alder (London).

The results were:
Mixed Pairs: 1, Mrs S. Haylock, D. Armstrong (Derbyshire); 2, D. Hart (North-west), Mrs D. Schwerdt (Somerset).
Waddington Rose Bowl: 1, K. E. Stanley (Worcestershire), P. D. Alder (London); 2, D. Jones (Warwickshire), P. Bowyer (Worcestershire); 3, S. Gore, J. Williams (Warwickshire).
Avon Cup: 1, D. Plumb, G. K. Plumb, G. Miles, J. McDermott (Surrey); 2, Mrs and Mrs S. W. Thomas, P. Channack, S. Kaplan (Somerset).

Latest appointments

Estonian emigre to conduct Birmingham SO

Neeme Järvi, the Estonian conductor who emigrated from the Soviet Union early last year and is to become principal guest conductor of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra for three seasons, starting in the autumn.

Mr Järvi, aged 43, built the Estonian State Symphony Orchestra into one of the Soviet Union's most successful orchestras before he lost his position as chief conductor when he applied to leave the country in 1979 (our Music Reporter writes).

He had conducted throughout Europe and the Americas during the 1970s and now lives in the United States.

He will conduct 12 concerts with the Birmingham Symphony next season and 15 concerts in each of the two subsequent seasons.

Paavo Berglund, until 1979 principal *conductor of both the Helsinki* Philharmonic and the Bournemouth Symphony orchestras, has been appointed principal guest conductor of the Scottish National Orchestra from next September.

Other appointments include:
The Rev Percy L. Ashford, aged 53, regional chaplain of the Prison Department, south-west region, to be *Chaplain General of the Prison* Service, in succession to Canon Leslie Lloyd-Rees.
Mr Charles Denton, programme controller of ATV Network, to be the network's director of programmes.
Sir Peter Proby, to be Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire in succession to Lieutenant-Colonel Peter Brassey.
Mr John Eccles to be a deputy chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.
Mr Roy H. Thomson, aged 48, vice-chairman of the Broadcasting Council of Scotland, to be vice-chairman of the board of directors *of Scottish Ballet, with special* responsibility for sponsorship and fund-raising.
Mr Norman Davies to be registrar of the General Dental Council in succession to Mr David Hindley-Smith.
Dr Norah H. Schuster and Sir Michael Sobell to be honorary fellows of the Royal College of Pathologists.

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, Feb 16, 1956

Paris uproar

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Feb 15.—A major fracas, the like of which has not been seen since the period of Communist violence in 1948 and 1949, occurred in the National Assembly this afternoon when Poujadists and Communists joined in physical battle for the possession of the rostrum from which deputies address the chamber and where public votes take place. Just when pandemonium was at its height and the public galleries were being cleared, the sound of a shot rang out from one of the galleries. This proved later to have come from nothing more lethal than a child's toy pistol. The Assembly had earlier resumed its debate on the invalidation of some of the Poujadist deputies whose elections have been contested. Two of these men have already been invalidated and today's discussion centred on a third case . . . Blows were exchanged and the chairs and stools on which the ushers sit were used as projectiles. It was at this point that the sound apparently of revolver shots was heard from one of the public galleries. M Le Troquer suspended the sitting and ordered the galleries to be cleared.

Folk festival

More than 400 musicians will appear in 110 events at this year's Edinburgh Folk Festival from March 20 to 29. It is the festival's third year and will include *performers from Spain, Norway*, France, Germany, Belgium and Chile.

Nobel nomination

An all-party group of 133 MPs and peers is supporting the nomination of the Nicaraguan Literacy Campaign and its director, Father Fernando Cardenal, SJ, for the 1981 Nobel peace prize.

OBITUARY

KARL RICHTER
Bach organist and conductor

Karl Richter, the well known organist and conductor died on February 15 in Munich at the age of 54. He was noted chiefly in Germany and elsewhere for his performances of Bach music.

He was born at Plauen on October 15, 1926. He studied at Leipzig under Mauersberger and Gunther Ramin, himself a Bach specialist, before becoming organist at Bach church St Thomas's, Leipzig, in 1947; but in 1951 he left to take up an equivalent post at St Mark's church in Munich and to teach there at the music academy, where he became a professor five years later.

He soon established a reputation as a Bach player, both on the organ and harpsichord, which he soon extended to conducting when he formed a Munich Bach choir and orchestra. He took them to many musical centres, including Moscow in 1968 to perform the B minor Mass and the Passion.

In London he also appeared on several occasions with the London Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra, but the results were not as immediate or as revelatory as those he achieved with his own forces. His choir in particular was an eagerly responsive bright-toned group.

In recent years he refused to have much to do with the new fashion for authentic ways of performing Bach. He neither reduced the size of his choir or orchestra, nor employed original instruments, preferring to follow the path that continued to be successful in his case.

He recorded the major choral works of Bach, some of his cantatas and Handel's *Messiah*. Many of the interpretations revealed his straightforward, unaffected, if slightly rigid, way with the music. He appreciated the prowess of British soloists, and used several of them in his recordings.

BRIGADIER NOEL COSBY

Brigadier Noel Cosby, CIE, MC, who died on January 27 at Houet Herbe, Alderney, at the age of 90, was believed to be the sole surviving officer of the Fifth Gurkhas who fought at Gallipoli. He was the only officer with the regiment who took part in the original landing and survived to retreat with his men.

Born in Catford in 1890, Cosby left HMS Worcester in 1907 and, after embarking on a career as a tea planter in Ceylon, joined the Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps in 1910.

From 1915 to 1935 he served with the Fifth Gurkhas in Egypt and Gallipoli, with periods of secondment to the Frontier Corps and Scouts on the North West Frontier. In 1935 he was appointed Commanding Officer of the Fifth/First Punjab Regiment, and in 1940, while in tribal territory, was ambushed and wounded. He was appointed Inspector General of the Frontier Corps in 1941, retiring from the army in 1945.

Before embarking for Gallipoli, where he was mentioned in dispatches, Cosby took part in the successful defence of the Suez Canal when Turkish forces advanced across the Sinai desert dragging boats behind them filled with drinking water and provisions. During action in Gallipoli, and despite having been wounded in the head and arm, Cosby led an attack on the Turkish lines to recover the body of his company commander. The same night, with all his men dead, Cosby defended his position alone with a machine gun. Twice over he saw every officer in the battalion killed or wounded.

For over 21 years after his return to Alderney in 1945 Cosby was the island's representative of the Lt. Governor of Guernsey. For many years he was president of the Royal Alderney Agricultural Society and, until his death, was president of the island's branch of the Royal British Legion. He is survived by his wife Margaret.

ADMIRAL OF THE FLEET LORD FRASER

P. K. writes:

The full obituary of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser in *The Times* of February 13 made no mention of the universal affection felt for him by all with whom he served.

Those subordinate to him almost literally worshipped him. This was due to his warm and sincere personality, and his irrepressible sense of fun. He was a man who, as an admiral in Russian waters, could find two midshipmen toasting sausages in front of an electric fire — and join them.

As captain of HMS Glorious he had a Christmas cake baked for the boy seamen on board who were orphans. As First Sea Lord he would write personal notes of encouragement to every junior officer, always in his own hand.

He disliked memories of the Scharnhorst action — "that great ship upside down in those freezing waters". All who had the privilege of knowing him will miss him deeply and personally.

LIEUT-GEN MOHAMMED YOUSUF

Lord Home of the Hirsel writes:

The news from Pakistan that General Yousuf had died meant that diplomacy had lost one of its most versatile personalities, *and Britain one of the best of* friends.

His tenure of the offices of High Commissioner both in Canberra and London was distinguished by his determination *to reconcile the countries of the* New Commonwealth with those of the Old, and he had the *vision of such a combination* exercising a benevolent influence on a global scale. As a soldier diplomat his approach was direct and sincere and sympathetic.

A *keen sportsman with a* zest for living, his lively and practical approach to every problem broke through all the barriers of protocol, and brought him many a success.

Britain has reason to remember him with gratitude and affection.

Sir John Arnott, Bt, died on February 14 at the age of 53.

The elder son of Sir Robert John Arnott, fourth baronet, he was born on April 9, 1927, and educated at Harrow. He formerly held a commission in The Royal Irish Fusiliers. He was chairman of the Phoenix Park racecourse, Dublin, and a member of the Irish Racing Board and the Irish Turf Club. He succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of his father in 1966.

He married in 1974 Ann Margaret, daughter of T. A. Farrelly. They had two sons, of whom the elder, Alexander John Maxwell Arnott, succeeds to the title.

The Rev Aniceto Fernandez, who was head of the Roman Catholic Dominican Order from 1962 to 1974 died on February 13, at the age of 86.

Born in Spain, Fernandez entered the Dominican Order at the age of 14, and was ordained in 1921. He taught theology for 20 years in Spain and in Rome.

Jack Crapp, a left hander who played seven Tests for England against Australia and South Africa in 1948-49, has died, aged 69.

The only Cornishman to have played for England, Crapp scored more than 23,000 runs and hit 38 centuries in 20 years with Gloucestershire. In 1954 he became their first professional captain, and after retiring became a first class umpire, standing in four Tests.

Correction

The obituary of Mr Chaudhuri Mohamad Ali former Prime Minister of Pakistan published in *The Times* on *December 5, 1980, referred* incorrectly to the "Mohamad Ali formula" in discussing the terms of the 1956 constitution. That term is generally used to describe a different formula put forward as a solution to Pakistan's constitutional problems in 1953 by the previous Prime Minister, Mohammed Ali of Bogra.

Latest wills

Residue left to National Trust

Mrs Clara Emily Richardson, of Sidmouth, left estate valued at £245,561 net. After personal bequests totalling £2,800 and effects she left the residue to the National Trust.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Batty, Mr Stanley, of Laneham, Nottinghamshire £128,897
Brittain, Mr Ronald, of Chester, former regimental sergeant-major £26,849
Cameron-Rose, *Mrs Barbara Joan*, of East Aberthaw, South Glamorgan £290,180
Dalrymple-Champneys, Captain Sir Weldon, of Oxford, deputy chief medical officer to Ministry of *Health from 1940 to 1956* £127,005
Hutton, Mr Andrew Michael, of Manor Fields, London £162,854
Messenger, *Mrs Kathleen Mary*, of Scarborough £189,741
Molyneux, *Mrs Constance Cochrina*, of Abergavenny, Gwent £257,388
Murray, Mrs Winifred Maud, of Petts Wood, Kent .. £131,338
Ollerenshaw, Mr Percival, of Guiseley £163,121
Redwood, Miss Evelyn May, of Yeovil £195,141
Roberts, *Colonel William Quincey*, of Newton St Loe, Bath, Land Steward, Duchy of Cornwall, 1943 to 1977 .. £74,113
Snelson, Mr William, of Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire .. £165,531
Sutherland, *Sir Benjamin Ivan*, of Alnwick, Northumberland .. £284,986
Tatters, Mr Arthur, of Appleby, farmer £168,474
Tawse, Dorothy May, of Stratford-on-Avon £227,858
Walker, *Mr Arthur Cyril, of Bridgnorth*, Shropshire .. £541,208
Weyman, Mr Arnold Aron, of Mill Hill, London £239,073
Woods, Mr Fred, of Guernsey, Channel Islands £190,868
Young, Mr Stanley Douglas, of Bath, estate agent .. £123,394

University news

Oxford
Elections:
ST HILDA'S COLLEGE: [illegible]
MAGDALEN COLLEGE: [illegible] Official fellowship as tutor in music and organist, from Oct 1: Dr J. M. Harper, MA (Cantab), PhD (Birm).
LINCOLN COLLEGE: *Honorary fellowship*: C. J. E. Ball, Warden of Keble College, fellow of Lincoln College, 1964-79.

Cambridge
The William Bate Hardy prize of the "Cambridge Philosophical Society has been awarded to Dr C. Milstein, of Fitzwilliam College, for his work on monoclonal antibody techniques.

Elections
CORPUS CHRISTIE COLLEGE: Research fellowships: E. C. Norton, MA, of Corpus Christi College, and A. M. Sugden, MSc, DPhil, of Wadham College, Oxford. Fellow commonership for Easter term, 1982: J. C. Alderson, Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall.
CLARE COLLEGE: Choral exhibitions: P. R. Gordon, King's S, Canterbury; S. R. Perkins, Southend HS for Boys; R. J. Thomson, Marlborough and A. W. Lloyd, Eton.
GIRTON COLLEGE: Schoolmistress fellow commoner for Easter term: Miss J. M. Norman, BA (Lond), first deputy head of Hewett Comp S, Norwich. Schoolmaster fellow commoner for Easter term: J. J. D. Dalton, MA (Emmanuel), Headmaster, Willenhall Comp S, West Midlands.
NEW HALL: C Lecturer in pharmacology and fellowship: C. R. Hiley, MA, PhD, of King's College, lecturer in pharmacology. Clothworkers' Company Schoolmistress fellow commoner for Easter term: Mrs S. M. Bridge, BA, DipEd (Leeds), St Mary's RC HS, Manchester.
KING'S COLLEGE: Unofficial fellowship in association with research centre project on shop-floor bargaining, work organization and labour productivity since 1850: S. W. Tolliday, PhD, for three years from Oct 1. *Professorial fellowships*: N. J. Mackintosh, DPhil (Oxon), Professor-elect of Experimental Psychology, and P. G. Casanova, Simon Bolivar Professor of Latin-American Studies for 1981-82, for one year from Oct 1. Unofficial fellowship: A. D. I. Macfarlane, DPhil (Oxon), PhD (Lond).

Manchester
Honorary degrees will be conferred in May and July on the following:
LLD: Sir Frederick Laker; Emeritus Professor R. A. C. Oliver, Mr C. E. Young.
D Sc: Professor H. A. Bethe; Professor *Sir Andrew Kay*; Mr Arthur Koestler.
MA: Mr K. D. King; Mr W. J. Smith; Mr N. P. Thomas.
MSc: Mr J. McCormick.

Grants
Agricultural Research Council: £31,465 to Dr G. R. Stewart for the study of glutamine synthetase isoenzymes and their role in ammonia metabolism. £22,514 to Professor C. I. Pogson, to study the control of metabolism in ruminal epithelium.
Arthritis and Rheumatism Council: £81,000 to Dr D. E. Woolley, to study the pathophysiology of the rheumatoid joint.
Dr Barnardo's: £46,710 to Dr J. H. Hogg for the support of the Anson House pre-school project.
British Diabetic Association: £34,588 to Dr H. E. Grant to study basement membrane biosynthesis in the normal and diabetic state.
Cancer Research Campaign: £108,620 *to Professor Derek Crowther, for the* support of the Manchester Medical Oncology Unit: £45,066 to Professor *Alwyn Smith to study cancer epidemiology*.
Department of Health and Social Security: £33,500 to Professor Ian Leck to study psychiatric illness among Salford residents.
Leverhulme Trust: £30,000 to M. C. Beveridge, Dr A. T. Hickman and Dr G. J. Hitch to study the learning encounter between pupil and a microprocessor.
Medical Research Council: £57,043 to Dr M. N. Marsh, to study the effect of gluten on the mitotic behaviour of epithelial lymphocytes in the small intestine; £48,124 to J. R. Elder and Dr Keith Burnett to study isolation and characterization of a gastric humoral substance that depresses gastro-intestinal absorption; £36,607 to Professor L. A. Turnberg to study the role of the autonomic nervous system in the control of intestinal transport: £32,550 to Dr D. E. Woolley to study the role of collagenase and its natural inhibitors in peptic ulcerations, degenerative joint disease and joint disorders: £27,405 to Dr J. A. Chapman and Dr D. J. S. Holmes to study diameter regulation in the assembly of collagen fibrils.
North Western Regional Health Authority: £31,850 to Professor R. A. Sellwood for a research fellowship.
National Fund for Research into Crippling Diseases: £21,656 to Dr C. H. Wynn to study lysosomal storage diseases and their prenatal diagnosis.
Natural Environment Research Council: £47,837 to Professors W. S. MacKenzie and Jack Zussman to study energy dispersive electron probe microanalysis.
Salford Area Health Authority (teaching): £21,290 to fund a lectureship in health service administration.
Science Research Council: £419,600 to Emeritus Professor Sir Bernard Lovell to study galactic and extragalactic radio-emissions and other *problems in radio astronomy: £56,912 to* Dr P. N. Wilkinson to study problems in radio astronomy: £30,368 to Dr D. J. Sandoz and Dr H. W. Thomas to study the industrial evaluation of computer-aided design procedures for commissioning of process control algorithms: £35,824 to Professor F. H. Read and Dr G. C. King to study threshold electron impact excitation and ionization of atoms and measurement of atomic lifetimes: £29,460 to Professor Alan Tallentire to study radiation damage induced in cells by monochromatic radiation: £23,500 to Dr I. H. Hillier to study angular resolved gas phase photoelectron spectroscopy: £23,000 to Dr John Meaburn to study a dedicated Echelle spectrograph for the Anglo-Australian Telescope.
Social Science Research Council: £27,969 to P. E. Lloyd to study industrial change and job generation under conditions of recession in North-West England, 1975-80.
Wellcome Trust: £25,656 to Professor H. S. Jackson to study variation in the fundamental structure of the uterine cervix at parturition.

Royal engagements

The following engagements for March have been announced from Buckingham Palace:

2: The Duke of Edinburgh, as an honorary member of Tiger Club, attends reception in connexion with Dawn to Dusk Competition at headquarters of Royal Aeronautical Society.

3: The Queen holds an investiture; the Duke of Edinburgh opens Careers for the 1980s exhibition at Kelvin Hall, Glasgow; the Duke dines with members of 1970 Club at Pollok House, Glasgow.

4: The Duke of Edinburgh, as president of National Playing Fields Association, visits association's resource centre, Ward End Park, Birmingham; the Duke opens Granville Street development of Trident Housing Society, Birmingham; the Duke visits Leigh Interests Ltd, Brownhills, Walsall.

4 to 6: The Prince of Wales visits Duchy of Cornwall property in Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset.

5: The Queen attends reception given by Chief Constables' Club *in Guildhall; the Duke of Edinburgh*, as honorary member of Medical Society of London, attends society's annual dinner at St Bartholomew's Hospital.

6: The Duke of Edinburgh, as honorary Air Commodore of RAF Kinloss, visits the station.

9: Princess Anne as patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, attends luncheon at Saddlers' Hall; the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attend Commonwealth Day Observance service in Westminster Abbey.
The Queen and the Duke attend Commonwealth Day reception at Marlborough House; the Duke, as patron and trustee of Duke of Edinburgh's Award, attends award scheme's twenty fifth anniversary Commonwealth Ball at Grosvenor House; the Prince of Wales, as patron, the Royal Opera, attends recital in aid of Royal Opera House development appeal at Goldsmiths' Hall.

10: The Queen holds investiture at Buckingham Palace; Princess Anne, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, visits Army Apprentices College, Harrogate; the Duke of Edinburgh lunches with members of 1975 Club at Farmers' Club; the Duke as Patron of Air League, holds reception at Buckingham Palace; the Duke dines with economics group of Reform Club at Reform Club; the Prince of Wales, as president, Royal Jubilee Trusts, gives reception *at Buckingham Palace; the* Prince dines with Association of American Correspondents at Brown's Hotel.

11: The Prince of Wales dines with members of TUC at Congress House.

12: The Queen visits new headquarters of the CBI at Centre Point; the Duke of Edinburgh, as patron of Industrial Society, attends "One People" conference at Porter Tun Room, Whitbread's, Chiswell Street, the Prince of Wales attends board meeting of Commonwealth Development Corporation, 33 Hill Street.

13: The Duke of Edinburgh opens Freeman Chemicals Ltd's new *laboratory at Deeside Industrial* Park, Deeside, Clwyd, North Wales; the Duke officially opens Wellesbourne Mountford Aerodrome of Smith Aviation Services near Warwick.

16: The Queen opens equine viral unit at laboratories of Animal Health Trust at Lanwades Park, near Newmarket; the Duke of Edinburgh, as Colonel-in-Chief of The Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, visits regiment at Bhurtpore Barracks, Tidworth.

17: The Duke of Edinburgh attends premiere of film, *Ability Is Where You Look For It*, and sees exhibition sponsored by Opportunities for the Disabled at Britannic House.

17-20: The President of Nigeria pays state visit to United Kingdom.

18: The Duke of Edinburgh, as president of Central Council of Physical Recreation, presides at council's annual general meeting at Fishmongers' Hall; the Duke opens Eastway sports centre of Lea Valley Regional Park Authority, Leyton.

19: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh visits Bank of England's printing works at Loughton.

20: *Princess Anne*, as Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Corps of Signals, attends TA all-ranks reception at Skinners' Hall.

21: The Queen attends women's hockey international, England v Wales, at Wembley.

22: The Prince of Wales, as patron, International Year of Disabled People, visits Stockport in connexion with mayor's appeal for the handicapped; the Prince attends gala performance at Palace Theatre, Manchester, to mark its reopening; Princess Anne, as president of British Academy of Film and Television Arts, presents British Academy Awards at Grosvenor House.

23: The Prince of Wales opens *Pagnell Street Centre, Deptford*.

24: The Queen holds investiture at Buckingham Palace.

25: The Queen visits intelligence centre at Templer Barracks, Ashford; The Queen visits Leeds Castle.

31: The Duke of Edinburgh, as patron of Conference on Human Value, attends opening of conference at Festival Hall.

30 to April 12: The Prince of Wales visits New Zealand.

Science report

Climate: Darwin's long-range dust

By the Staff of *Nature*
Charles Darwin's dust, raised by the winter storms in Chad and Niger, has been detected far away in French Guiana, twice as far as Darwin thought it travelled when he first saw the dust during the voyage of the Beagle. According to new measurements, as much as 400 million tons of that dust may be *deposited each year in the North* Atlantic, and while suspended in the atmosphere may significantly affect the climate of the region.

Darwin noticed the dust at his first landing, three weeks out of Plymouth, in the Cape Verde Islands off West Africa. He correctly attributed it to the West African storms known as the harmattan. "The dust falls in such quantities as to dirty everything on board", he wrote in *The Voyage of the Beagle*. "Vessels have even run on shore owing to the obscurity of the atmosphere."

Later, a Professor Ehrenberg analysed the dust for him, and found a profusion of tiny siliceous skeletons among the material, some from freshwater infusoria and some from plants. But Darwin was surprised that most of the infusoria were new to Professor Ehrenberg; that none of them was a known African species, and that two of them were known only in *South America*.

Some of those puzzles may have been resolved by the recent work of Dr J. M. Prospero, Dr R. A. Glaccum and Dr R. T. Rees of the University of Miami, published in the current issue of *Nature*. Dr Prospero and colleagues set up an observing station in French Guiana in 1977.

Atmospheric dust had been *observed systematically for* 15 years in Barbados, farther north, but that dust showed a peak in the summer months. Was it possible that the African plume moved north and south with the seasons? The answer, it seems, after three years' *observations, is* yes.

A greater amount of dust is raised in Africa in the winter, but because of the then prevailing winds, it finds its way predominantly to South America. But the lesser amount of dust produced in the summer goes farther north, reaching Barbados.

Moreover, Africa is not the only source of the dust, and that may explain Professor Ehrenberg's confusing observations. The Miami group analyzed the dust for mineral content, and found that it fell in three forms. The first had the same composition as dust previously collected from ships and islands close to Africa. The second came from soil in Brazil. And the third was a mixture of both.

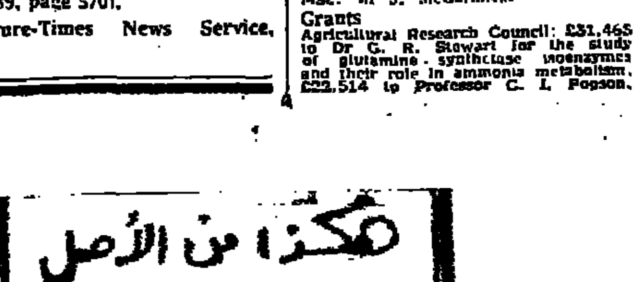
The winter dust came predominantly from Africa, and the autumn, spring and summer dust predominantly from South America. The African dust was brown, fine and almost entirely devoid of organic material. The South American dust, on the other hand, abounded with organic species. It seems possible, therefore, *that what Darwin collected and* Professor Ehrenberg analyzed was a mixture of the two.

All that dust, the Miami group says, could provide a substantial fraction of the mineral sediments of the tropical and equatorial North Atlantic; could transport fungal spores from one continent to another, and probably causes a marked increase in the solar heating of the troposphere and a cooling of the surface.

That would increase atmospheric stability in the region (hot air tends to rise, so that hot air below with cool air above is unstable) and may have a significant impact on the weather over a large area of the Atlantic.

Source: *Nature*, February 12, 1981 (vol 289, page 570).

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Fashion

by

Suzy Menkes

Moving up among the heavyweights

It is a long hard-haul from the end of Wigan pier to the bright lights of the West End. The cardigan has taken longer to make it than many a seasoned trouper, but this spring it can rightly call itself a star.

I have seen the once-humble cardigan in every single designer collection — svelte, in cashmere at Yves Saint Laurent, chunky in chenille at Hardy Amies. There are cardigans knitted in silk and plain woollies embroidered with the most intricate gilded threads. There is now no fashionable occasion (Lanvin showed a lamé cardigan over a ball dress) when a cardigan does *not* look right.

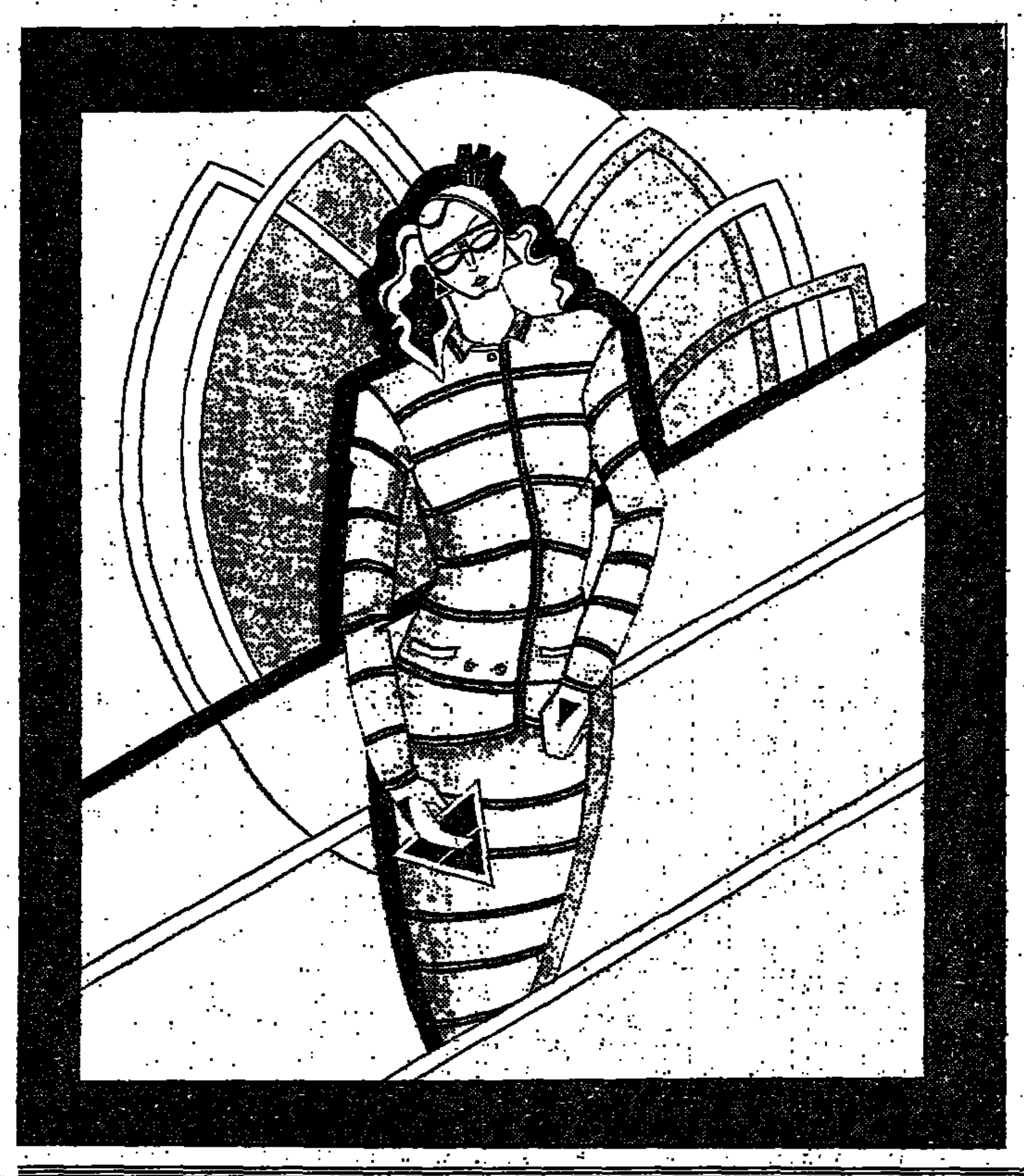
The most popular cardigans for this spring are the heavy-weights that have elbowed out the jacket. The vogue for padded shoulders did a good deal to help the metamorphosis of the cardigan from drooping understudy to star performer. The shaping at the shoulders gave fresh life to knitwear, even for women who prefer the flattery of tailoring. The double-breasted or wrap-round cardigan jacket are currently the most fashionable shapes, *and they are frequently* translated into fabric to make a cardigan jacket out of cloth.

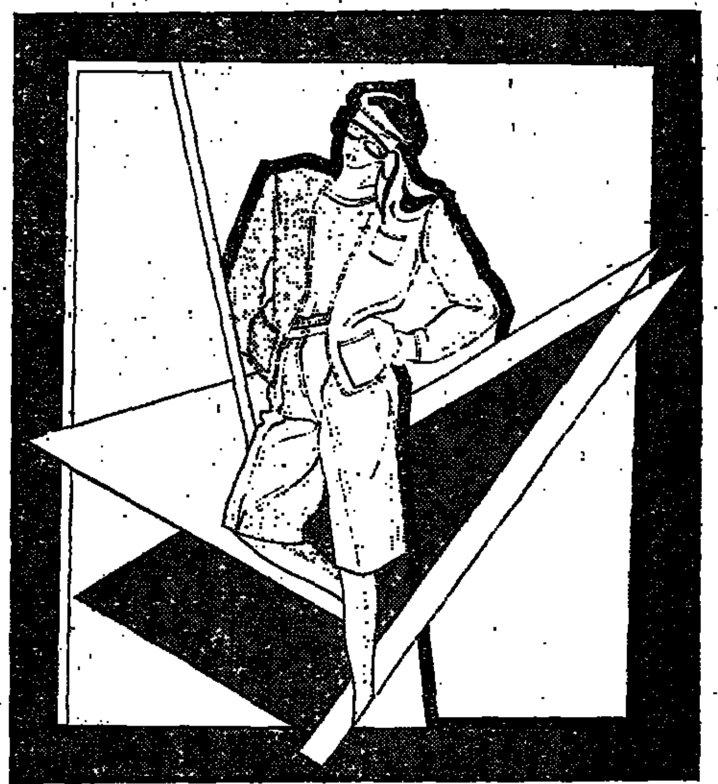
I think that the cardigan looks much better as an integral part of an outfit than as an appendage, which is how it always used to be worn over a summer frock on the sea front. The most desirable cardigans are those sold as part of a three piece suit, the colours and patterns of the wool cunningly printed on to a cloth skirt or matched absolutely to plain trousers or a lacy sweater. The snag is that this kind of integration is very expensive, so you have to forget the idea that the cardi suit might make *a cheap*, and cheerful substitute for a new spring jacket.

The alternative solution is to *make a ruthless study of everything* in your wardrobe and buy the one cardigan which will tone more or less with most of your existing separates. In practise, I think you will find that this means navy or cream. An Aran-style cardigan or thick rib (Marks & Spencer have an acrylic version in camel, navy and red at £11.99) makes an elegant jacket, if you wear it with this season's shorter skirts and a classy belt.

Because skirts are getting shorter, the cardigans are getting longer, at least covering your thighs and often growing down to three-quarter length. Worn with a pretty tie-necked blouse and a slim skirt, they really are smart enough to act as a light spring coat.

The first intimations of stardom for the cardigan came just 60 years ago when Coco Chanel set up her *little* shop in Deauville and used the inspiration of her Milord English lovers to touch English country casuals with French chic. I think that Madame Chanel would be well pleased to see her protegée celebrating its diamond jubilee.





Left: The stylish cardigan suit in cotton knit by Adrian Cartmell for Crocodile, jacket £85, skirt £63, in white, taupe or turquoise, striped, sizes small, medium and large from Crocodile, Beauchamp Place, London SW3, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2, Royal *Exchange Shopping Centre, Manchester, Station Road,* Solihull, West Midlands, and branches.

Above: Three piece shorts suit, jacket with contrast piping £59, matching top £41, bermudas £34.50, all pure wool in wine, cream or navy, from Arté, 12 South Molton Street, London W1 and 51 Brompton Road.

Above: Collarless double breasted, three quarter cardigan £28.40 in pure new wool in ten colours. Matching cords £15.40 both from Benetton, 40 Hampstead High Street, 23 *Brompton Road, London* and Dublin and Cork branches. Checked shirt by Plume £15 from Crocodile, Hampstead, and branches. *Shetland wool* brightly striped sweater £19.50, (children's £14) from W. Bill, 93 New Bond Street and 28 Old Bond Street, London W1. Checked wool gloves £2.50, and Elbeo ribbed tights £4.50 all from Fenwicks of Bond Street, London W1. Leather moccasins, white, blue or red with contrast stitching £14.99 from main branches of Freeman Hardy Willis.

Make-up by Arianne for Models One.
Hair by Lundy at Toni & Guy.
Photograph by Jeany



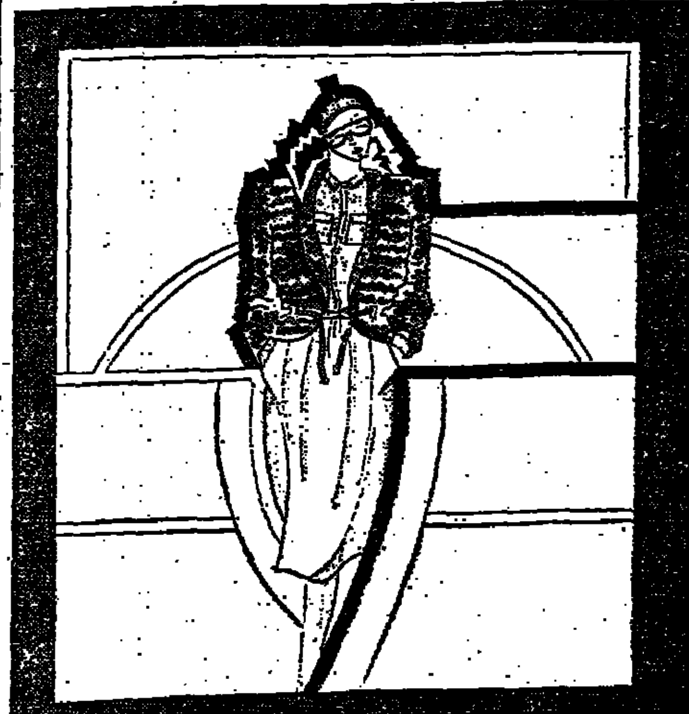


Above: The cardigan jacket in ribbed acrylic £19.95, in rust or black, pure wool skirt £29.95, in mint, peach, *cream or navy and* blouse £16.95, all by Reldan, sizes 10-16 from Barkers of Kensington, Frasers of Glasgow, Rackhams *of Birmingham* and Kendal Milne of Manchester.

Below: Cardigan outfit with *knitted chenille jacket* £130, in brown, pink, blue or grey, exactly toning cotton shirt £85 and silk mix skirt £75 all by Hardy Amies, 14 Savile Row, London W1.

Drawings by Susan MacKinley.

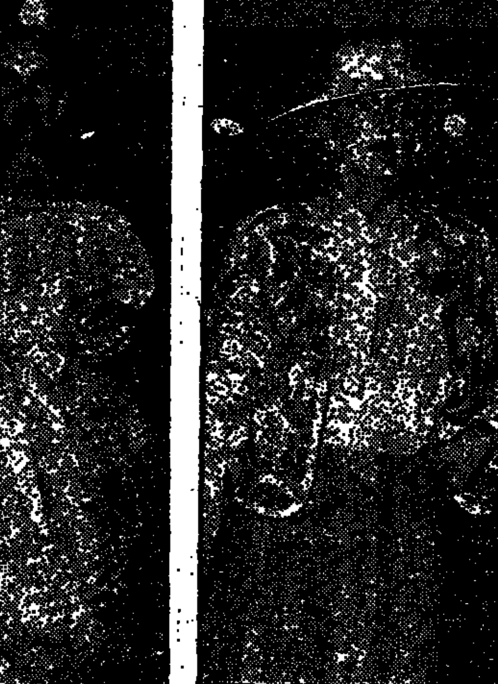




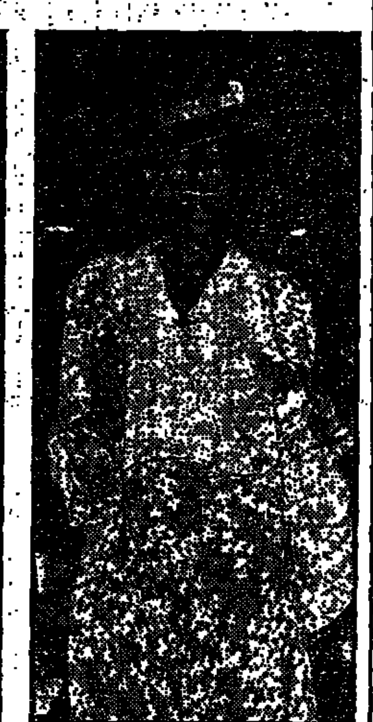
Snippets



Embroidered organza *ball dress.*



Crewel-embroidered jacket with *pleated wool crepe skirt.*



Printed crepe de chine *soft suit.*

■ *Whatever the merits of news*reader Jan Leeming's singing voice, you have to admire her style. At six *months pregnant,* she consistently appears on television looking neat, elegant and *with none of those awful* touches of white at the neck or frills across the bosom that are *traditionally associated with* mothers-to-be. The peacock blue Gina Fratini dress she wore on the Russell Harty show was another happy choice.

Now that so many more women are holding down serious jobs right through their pregnancies, there is a need for more formal clothes (and especially well-cut separates) suitable for an expanding figure.

Maternity shops have gone a long way to meet the market needs. Even Mothercare are rethinking their pinafore dress and flowered smock image and putting some jollier clothes like dungarees in their stores (but not yet in the catalogue).

Famous names still seem to *gravitate towards suitable* dresses from ordinary fashion ranges. (This is the principle *behind that rather good* maternity shop, Great Expectations in London's Fulham Road, who stock designers like Paul Howie).

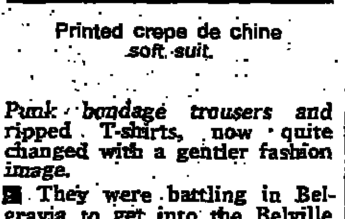
Princess Michael of Kent *swooped on a trapeze* shaped wool crepe dress by David and Liz Emmanuel and a floating Indian *silk evening dress for* her continuing round of engagements before her new baby arrives in April.

Laura Ashley have found that their baggy dungarees, designed for kids, have been snapped up by stylish mothers-to-be.



Spotted-net blouse with flocked organza skirt.
All from Belville Sassoon, 73 Pavilion Road, London SW1.

Photographs by Harry Kerr.



Perhaps the most *surprising* appearance was the smock worn by Maureen Lipman (pregnant *not in real life but in her TV* series *Agony*). That innocent looking dress comes from Vivienne *Westwood's shop* World's End, the birthplace of *Punk bondage trousers* and ripped T-shirts, now quite changed with a gentler fashion *image.*

■ They were battling in Belgravia to get into the Belville Sassoon *show last week.* I was surprised to see such a quintessentially English audience *abandon our tradition of queue*ing. But when I saw the ravishingly pretty clothes, so per*fectly suited to the English* woman's colouring, shape and social life, I realized that the *show must be as much a part* of the calendar as Ascot and Wimbledon.

*The colour palette for sum*mer comes straight out of a Gainsborough painting, with *absolutely none of this season's* cruel khaki, but plenty of soft blues, sugar pinks and turquoise.

David Sassoon's silhouette is neatly tailored with some delicious *Crewel-embroidered* jackets worn with pleated skirts and silk blouses to start the show. Equally tidy are the navy crepe sailor collared outfits, an Edwardian children's outfit come of age.

Since English women seldom shine with chic in a little black dress, I absolutely approve of David Sassoon's frilled organza evening blouses, silk taffeta ball gowns, printed with a print of bows and decorated with real bows, and hand-painted chiffon crinolines.

For less formal occasions, the prints and colours are equally pretty, but made up into simple crepe de chine *separates—like a slim silky* coat over a soft skirt.

Stock Exchange Prices

Insurance features strongly

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 9. Dealings End, Feb 27. § Contango Day, March 2. Settlement Day, March 9

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
34	31½	Goode D & M Grp	28½	..	1 1	3.8	8.0
501	306	Inchcape	425	• -2	25.9b	6.1	10.7
135	112	Independent Inv	122	..	..	..	..
182	116½	Lloyds & Scot	157	-1	8.0	5.1	14.0
41	23	Ldn & Euro Grp	36	..	2.1	5.8	7.1
335	128	M&G Grp Hldgs	335	+5	14 3	4.3	16.1
77	31	Manson Fin	75	..	5.0	6.7	17.3
630	132	Mercantile Hse	605	• -13	19 3	3.2	21.7
96	61	Sime Darby	84	-3	2.5	3.0	13.7
51	22	Smith Bros	38	-1	3.6	9.4	6.3
18	11¼	Tyndall O'seas	£15	..	26.0	1 4	..
69	35	Utd Dom Tst	56	h -1	..	..	..
52	31	Wagon Fin	44	..	3.3	7 5	10.9
131	81	Yule Catto	98	-2	2.5	2.5	16.2

INSURANCE

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
266	148	Britannic	248	-4	17 5	7 1	..
183	126	Com Union	149	-1	14.6	9 8	..
278	149	Eagle Star	243	-6	14.1	5 8	..
340	120	Equity & Law	330	-4	15.7	4.8	..
370	212	Gen Accident	292	-4	18.2	6.2	..
370	220	GRE	312	-2	20.7	6.6	..
328	113	Hambro Life	319	-5	12.4	3.9	..
225	170	Heath C E.	208	+10	13.9	6.7	9.5
141	83	Hogg Robinson	105	+1	8 1	7.8	8.8
116	90	Howden A.	106	+1	10.0	9.4	8 3
257	151	Legal & Gen	210	-7	11.4	5 4	..
228	140	London & Man	204	-4	13.0	6.4	..
210	123	Ldn Utd Inv	196	+3	12.9	6.6	9 5
14⅞	11¾	Marsh & McLen	£13½	+⅛	84 4	6.3	..
117	85	Minet Hldgs	94	..	6 5	6.9	11 6
32	20	Moran C	21	..	5 7	27.2	4.4
472	268	Pearl	428	-4	27.1	6.3	..
318	206	Phoenix	250	+2	20 0	8 0	..
288	134	Prov Life	196	-2	15.4	7.9	..
269	162	Prudential	239	-6	14.3	6.0	..
242	140	Refuge	220	-4	10.5	4.8	..
449	310½	Royal	356	-4	34 3b	9 6	..
135	89	Sedgwick	121	+3	7.1	5.9	10.6
97	67	Stenhouse	82	..	6.6	8.1	..
241	166	Stewart Wrson	220	+2	17.1	7.8	8.5
811	519	Sun Alliance	752	-2	42 1	5 6	..
276	129	Sun Life	262	-8	10.7	4.1	..
206	158	Trade Indem'ty	203	..	8.3	4 1	..
266	208	Willis Faber	286	+8	16.1	5.6	14.4

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
175	98	Alliance Inv	168	-1	7 3b	4.3	..
265	175	Alliance Trust	242	-4	13.7	5 7	..
69	39	Amer Trust Ord	43½	-½	2.8b	4.4	..
149	83	Ang-Amer Secs	123	..	6.1	5.0	..
59½	42	Anglo Int Inv	58½	..	6.4	11 0	..
194	134	Do Ass	169	-1	..	..	..
67½	40½	Anglo Scot	62	-½	3.4	5.5	..
187	113	Ashdown Inv	181	• ..	8.9	4.9	..
68	50	Atlanta Balt	68	..	1 4	2.1	..

SHIPPING

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
346	178	Brit & Comm	291	-1	17.9	6.1	7.3
208	116½	Fisher J.	155	..	2.9	1.9	12.5
41	31	Jacobs J. I.	37	..	3.1	8.5	..
137	85½	Ocean Trans	133	-2	12.7	9.6	15.9
137	105	P & O 'Dfd'	123	-1½	10.0	8.1	7.8

MINES

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
16½	8½	Anglo Am Coal	£13½	..	53.5	4.0	..
892	485	Anglo Am Corp	605	+9	48.0	7.9	..
59¼	30¼	Ang Am Gold	£37¹⁵⁄₁₆	+¼	501	13.2	..
56⅝	36⁹⁄₁₆	Anglo Am Inv	£42⅝	+1¼	161	3.8	..
22	13¾	Anglo Transvl	£17	..	144	8.5	..
22	13¾	Do 'A'	£17	..	144	8.5	..
25	13½	Asarco	£16	..	60.0	3.7	..
73	43	Beralt Tin	69	..	7.1	10.3	..
12½	4⅞	Blyvoors	£6²¹⁄₃₂	-⅛	196	29.1	..
277	119	Bracken Mines	155	+7	47 4	30.5	..
29¹⁵⁄₁₆	11⅞	Buffelsfontein	£16⅝	+⅛	419	25.2	..
283	137	Charter Cons	226	+1	12.0	5.3	..
652	411	Cons Gold Fields	426	+3	32.1b	7.5	..
553	337	De Beers 'Dfd'	368	+7	43.2	11.7	..
13	4¹⁄₁₆	Doornfontein	£6⅞	-⅛	133	19.4	..
22⅝	6⁹⁄₁₆	Durban Rood	£8³⁄₃₂	+⅛	267	32.2	..
226	31	East Dagga	86	• +4	8.3	9.7	..
17⅞	8⅞	E Driefontein	£12	+⅛	193	16.1	..
18	8½	E. Rand Prop	£8¾	+⅛	210	24.0	..
83	63	El Oro M & Ex	70	-2	2.5	3.6	..
350	141	Elsburg Gold	164	-5	44.0	26 8	..

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
332	263	Moran	270	..	11.4	4.2	..
158	105	Surmah Valley	135	-3	3.2	3.2	..
219	132¾	Warren Plant	216	..	14 5b	6.8	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
48	25	Calcutta Elec	29	• ..	6.8	25.3	..
34½	29½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£32	• ..	500	15.6	..
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£22	..	153	7 0	8.
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	225	..	10 1	4.5	10.
185	93	Milford Docks	113	-2	9.8	8.7	..
143	83	Nesco Inv	143	+5	10 0	7 0	..
34½	29½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£34½	..	538	15.6	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

	Closing Price
Allied London Prop 8½% Cnv 1999 (£)	£10[illegible]
Bell A. 9½% Conv 1999-2001	[illegible]
Dunbar Group £1 Ord (303)	[illegible]
Essex Water 8¾% Red Pref 1985 (£)	[illegible]
Exchequer 12% Cnv 1985 (£97¼)	[illegible]
Exchequer 12% 'A' 1998 (£)	[illegible]
Exchequer 12¾% 'B' 1990 (£)	[illegible]
Lon Merchant Secs 7¾% Cnv Ln 2000-05	£46[illegible]
New Tokyo Inv Trust 50p Ord	116[illegible]
Oil and Gas Production 2c Ord (12)	42-1
Portals 9¾% Cnv 1994-2000 (£)	£117¾-1½
Treasury 12% 1986 (£)	[illegible]
Treasury 11½% 1989 'A' (£)	£90[illegible]
Treasury 11¾% 2003-2007 'A' (£)	[illegible]

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	Closing Price
Argyll Foods (65)	Mar 27	30 prem
Norcros (60)	Mar 27	21½ prem

Issue price in parentheses. • Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £10 paid. b £10 paid. Fully paid. g £40 paid. h £20 paid.

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Raising the roof over rates, page 19

Stock markets
FT Ind 484.5, down 8.7
FT Gilts 69.09, up 0.08

Sterling
$2.2570, down 2.85 cents
Index 103.5, down 0.3

Dollar
Index 102.2, up 1.1
DM 2.2472, up 277

Gold
$490.50, down $3.00

Money
3 mth sterling 13¼-13⅛
3 mth Euro $18⅛-18⅜
6 mth Euro $ 18⅜-18⅝

IN BRIEF

:3,120m :EC fund :o ease :il deficits

European Economic Commu- ity finance ministers have greed to open a £3,120m loan cility to meet requests for nancial help from member ates with balance of payments :ficits caused by the increas- g cost of imported oil. Under the scheme the EEC ould raise loans either directly om the oil-producing countries on the international capital arkets and then relend the oney.

The total endowment of the cility is somewhat less than ie £3,650m proposed by the uropean Commission, mainly ecause the West Germans con- der this to be too high. The an approved does not include terest payments on any loans ised.

Some member states had itially pressed for a ceiling of more than £6,000m.

'ediffusion sells out

Rediffusion, the television ntal and electronics group is lling a controlling stake in its ss-making Hongkong tele- sion station to an Australian nsortium for £9.7m.

Financial news, page 20

'hisky warning

:xcise revenue from spirits ıld be £250m down on esti- te this financial year because the decline in spirit sales. e Scotch Whisky Association rs more duty increases in t month's Budget could ıse further sales downturns, l a threat to jobs in whisky duction and packaging.

ondon gold futures

The London Gold Futures rket announced that its new ntract would be traded in -ounce lots and denominated sterling. Page 21

BI committee chief

Mr Stephen Gibbs, chairman Turner & Newall, is to place Mr Eric Sayers as airman of the energy policy mmittee of the Confederation British Industry.

50 jobs lost

Bonser Engineering, part of e Kaye Organization, is trans- rring production of its range fork-lift trucks from Gilt- ook, Nottingham, to another oup plant at Blackwood, vent. About 150 workers at e Giltbrook plant will be de redundant.

lerger challenge

Directors of Keyser Ullman d Charterhouse Group said sterday that objections lodged Throgmorton Trust to the erger of the groups were rely technical and could be ercome.

acking for CCA

Mr Reginald Eyre, under cretary of State for Trade, s given an assurance that the vernment is backing the counting Standards Com- ittee's efforts to introduce rrent cost accounting (CCA).

'all Street closed

Wall Street was closed sterday for the George ashington birthday holiday.

Sales push January retail figures almost 3 pc higher

By Melvyn Westlake

Spending in shops and department stores showed a surprisingly sharp jump in the weeks after Christmas, with the volume of retail sales rising almost 3 per cent in January after declining steadily in earlier months, according to figures published yesterday.

The monthly sales figures are seasonally adjusted to smooth out the effects of Christmas shopping and the winter clearance sales.

However, the only explanation that the Department of Trade could provide for the buying spree last month was that the winter sales were proving more buoyant than in other years.

Many shops are reported to have cut prices deeply to run down their stocks. Because of high interest rates, stocks have been expensive to finance on borrowed money.

At the same time, with taxes likely to rise in next month's Budget and unemployment widely predicted to reach new high levels this year, it would appear that many people are taking advantage of price reductions to prepare for the leaner times which they expect ahead.

It seems possible that purchases have been deliberately delayed to take advantage of the post-Christmas sales. This would partly account for the decline in spending during November and December, although price promotions have been common in many of Britain's high streets for months.

In spite of fierce price-cutting, the volume of retail sales rose only 1.25 per cent last year, compared to 1979. Consumers' expenditure, of which retail sales constitute about half, showed almost no rise at all last year, in real terms.

This year the Treasury is expecting consumers' spending to drop by about 0.75 per cent from the 1980 level. Because the prices of many goods and services provided outside the retail area—like fuel and transport—will rise faster than prices generally, there will be little scope for any increase in retail sales during 1981 as a whole.

The January increase in sales is therefore likely to be followed by a decline. Last month's rise was, however, shared by each of the main categories of retailing—food, clothing and footwear, household goods, mixed stores and "other" shops, like chemists, book and photographic shops.

Higher sales: With sales continuing in many shops throughout January and into this month, trade reports indicate a continuation of higher volumes at the cost of squeezed margins (Derek Harris writes).

But the Retail Consortium said last night that the downturn in volume feared by most of the retail trade, except in food, could begin to set in by the end of this month.

The department stores of the John Lewis Partnership reported sales up 14 per cent by value in the first week of February, which was 5 per cent above estimates. Furnishing sales have been good and spring fashionwear has also been selling, with unusually mild weather possibly a factor.

Colour television set sales have remained more buoyant than expected throughout January, with some other electronic goods also doing well, according to trade reports.

Table, page 20

About eight out of 10 shares on offer will go to private investors

Aerospace heavily oversubscribed

By Catherine Gunn

One of the main reasons for the oversubscription to last week's offer to the public of 50 per cent of British Aerospace was the large number of applications from small investors. Employees of the company applied for almost twice the number of shares available to them preferentially.

More than 155,000 applications were received for the 100 million shares at 150p each, leaving the issue three-and-a-half times oversubscribed.

Kleinwort Benson, the issuing house, is giving preference to small investors, as promised by the Government, and it is estimated that more than 80 per cent of the shares on offer will go to private investors.

The company said that the group was "very encouraged" by the response, particularly by the large number of applications from employees.

Under the employee share ownership scheme, 58,000 people or nine out of 10 of those eligible, applied for the 33 free shares each, and a further 27,000 applied for nearly twice the 2.48 million shares on offer to them at the full price.

These applications have been adjusted so that no employee will receive more than 220 shares. The Government matched that offer with additional free shares.

The allocation of shares to the public will be made so that applications for up to 700 shares will be accepted in full.

Applications for more than 700 and up to 1,000 shares will receive 750 shares; applications for between 1,500 and up to 7,000 shares will be given 37½ per cent of the total applied for, with a minimum allotment of 800 shares; and applications for 7,500 shares and above will get about 18¼ per cent of the total applied for, with a minimum of 2,750 shares.

Many of the applications are small enough to be accepted in full.

British Aerospace, which was formed by the nationalization in 1977 of the British Aircraft Corporation, Hawker Siddeley and some small interests, is hoping to announce new aircraft projects later this week to encourage the first day of dealing. This has had to be postponed from tomorrow until Friday because of the amount of paperwork involved.

The Government will inject £100m of the £150m raised by the issue back into British Aerospace in the form of new equity. After the sale, 2½ per cent of the equity is foreign owned while the British Government retains effective control.

The total cost of the issue is estimated to be between £4m and £5m of which the company will bear only £1m of capital duty and about £150,000 in legal fees.

The Department of Industry said that the underwriting and sub-underwriting fees represented well over half the cost of the issue, but would not disclose what additional fees are to be paid to Kleinwort Benson or to Lloyds Bank which acted as the receiving bank and registrar.

On top of its own fee, Kleinwort Benson receives commission of £2.63m, 1¾ per cent of the value of the issue, out of which it has to pay the sub-underwriters' commission at 1¼ per cent and the fees of Hoare Govett, Cazenove, and W. Greenwell, brokers to the offer for sale.

The question of when to reconsider the introduction of traded options in British Aerospace remains unsolved; and Mr Richard Westmacott, chairman of Hoare, Govett, said that it would be at least two or three months before anyone could gauge what "normal trading" in the shares was likely to be.

Financial Editor, page 19

More strong dollar gains over mark and pound

By John Whitmore

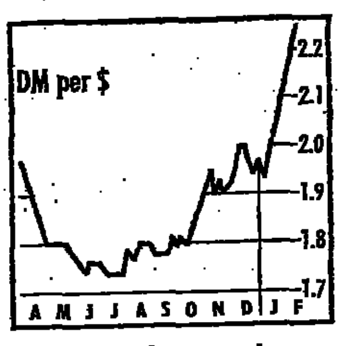
International investors continued to scramble aboard the dollar bandwagon yesterday, pushing it up strongly against both the pound and the Deutsche mark.

Sterling, which opened sharply lower after overnight trading in the Far East, dipped to $2.2460 at one stage. Although this largely reflected the continuing movement of international money into the dollar, the pound was not helped by the threatened stoppages of miners and water workers.

Accompanied by suggestions of Bank of England smoothing operations, sterling came off the bottom, and made a further modest recovery in response to the January trade figures.

At the close the pound showed a net loss for the day of 2.85 cents at $2.2570. But it remained firm against most other currencies and its index against a basket of currencies finished only 0.3 lower at 103.5.

Once again the Deutsche mark came under heavy pressure with the dollar rising above DM2.2550 at one stage. Later the dollar slipped back slightly to close with a net gain of 2.77 pfennigs at DM2.2472.



Foreign exchange markets are awaiting President Reagan's statement on the United States economy, due to be delivered to Congress tomorrow. The markets are looking for substantial reductions in federal spending as well as a strong commitment to fighting inflation.

The expectation is that the fight to control inflation will entail relatively high interest rates in both nominal and real terms for some months to come.

By contrast there is a strong expectation that the United Kingdom Government is about to lower sterling interest rates, probably in the Budget on March 10 or soon afterwards.

The Germans would probably like to lower their interest rates on domestic considerations but are in no position to do so while the Deutsche mark remains under such intense pressure in the foreign exchange markets. Indeed, the central bank's recent money market operations have been designed to keep domestic interest rates very firm.

Selling of equities: The possibility of a confrontation with the miners produced a sharp reaction on the London Stock Market yesterday (Michael Clark writes). Jobbers reported heavy selling of equities as the long three week account entered the mid-way stage and the Charterhouse group reported that the current "slump" would get worse.

The *FT* index tumbled 8.7 to 484.5, its worst fall since December 11. Sentiment was also hit by rumours that one of the smaller City financial institutions was in trouble.

Government securities recovered after an early setback after the trade figures showing a rise of £¼ on the day.

Financial Editor, page 19

BP in group challenging Telecom

By Bill Johnstone

British Petroleum is the third member of a private consortium to declare an interest in running a speech-and-data network in competition with British Telecom.

The others are Barclays Merchant Bank and Cable and Wireless, the state-owned telecommunications company.

Barclays issued a "private and confidential" note to a selected number of City investors last September to test the market. Cable and Wireless is conducting a survey to gauge market expectations from such a venture.

C & W has extensive expertise, particularly in the United States, in offering "value-added services". The company's American subsidiaries include C & W Incotel, experts in message switching equipment; TDX Systems, which provides telecommunications management and control services, and Carterfone Communications Corporation which broke the monopoly of American Telephone and Telegraph after litigation in the late 1960s.

Although it is early in the negotiations, it is thought that Scicon Computer Services of Milton Keynes, BP's subsidiary, could become involved.

C & W has brought two executives from its subsidiary, Cable and Wireless North America, to supervise the survey now in progress. They are Mr Philip Warwick and Mr David Bull.

But the success of the venture will depend on whether Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Industry allows such "value-added services" to be provided by the private sector.

The Government is still studying a report commissioned last year by the Department of Industry on value-added services. The study was conducted by Professor Michael Beesley of the London Business School and is expected to favour the private sector being allowed to offer selected services in competition with British Telecom.

The Bill will also allow the minister to sell Cable and Wireless. During the second reading of the Bill, the suggestion of a C & W sale caused uproar in the Commons.

750 British Sugar redundancies

By Michael Prest

The British Sugar Corporation is to close four beet sugar factories, Mr John Beckett, chief executive, confirmed yesterday in a statement marking an important change in the structure of the British sugar market.

It is a difficult moment for British Sugar, which is awaiting the outcome of a Monopolies Commission report into a £121m bid for the company by S. & W. Berisford, the commodity traders.

The closures mark the end of British Sugar's aggressive expansionist policy in recent years and could give the troubled Tate & Lyle breathing space which it needs to make its cane refineries profitable.

Mr Beckett said the factories to be closed were at Felsted, Essex; Ely, Cambridgeshire; Selby, North Yorkshire, and Nottingham. About 750 jobs will be lost, as well as another 500 temporary jobs available during the four month processing season (the campaign).

Treated as individual concerns, each of these factories loses money, being too small and old-fashioned. The total loss last year was between £3m and £4m. The costs of closing would be about £23m, of which £8.5m was closure costs and the rest written off from assets, Mr Beckett said.

Although it has been known for several years that these and possibly four more of British Sugar's 17 factories are uneconomic, it was Mr Peter Walker's declaration last week that he would accept a new EEC sugar quota of 1.15 million tonnes a year that tipped the balance.

This quota, which is 58,000 tonnes more than the Commission's last offer to the British Government, has not yet been settled. But Mr Beckett and his board seem convinced that it will go through. The current quota totals 1.326 million tonnes.

British Sugar has never produced that much. In the 1979/80 campaign it produced 1.154 million tonnes and expectations for the current campaign are just over 1.1 million tonnes. Nevertheless, successive British Governments, which have a 24 per cent stake in the company, have encouraged it to produce up to 1.3 million tonnes.

Mr Beckett said yesterday: "What I find unpalatable is that those people who were cheering on 1.3 million tonnes in 1975 no longer want it."

But this change in government policy is only the catalyst. Because the quota is likely to be cut back to British Sugar's actual production level, the company believes it would be irresponsible to encourage farmers to grow more. The company has contacts with about 14,000 growers.

These contracts are due to be renewed about now. Farmers who would have delivered beet to the four factories to be closed will be given financial assistance to transport the beet to other, more distant, factories, and the subsidy will be phased out.

But the company recognizes that it had not persuaded farmers to plant more than about 210,000 hectares, which is not enough to meet the 1.3 million quota, and that consumption is falling in the United Kingdom. It has fallen by some 400,000 tonnes over five years to the present 1.3 million tonnes, as glucose has grown steadily more attractive to industrial users.

This supply surfeit forced Tate & Lyle to announce last month that it was to close its Liverpool refinery. Some market sources now feel that the limit on British Sugar's output, along with a stabilization of the whole market, could improve Tate's chances of running its two remaining refineries profitably.

Mr John Beckett: convinced of new EEC quota.

Lonrho discloses plan for House of Fraser

By Philip Robinson

If Lonrho's £158m takeover bid for the House of Fraser is successful, Britain's biggest stores group would become a separate major division of the international trading company, would continue to be based in Glasgow, and its board would include directors with extensive experience of the Fraser group's operations, Lonrho disclosed yesterday.

Its intentions were set out in Lonrho's formal offer document to Fraser shareholders. This makes no mention of whether Sir Hugh Fraser, deposed stores group chairman, would be brought back as head of House of Fraser.

Lonrho said it would also review the basic strategy drawn up by the existing board, over which it has already expressed concern, with the purpose of ensuring the growth of a healthy operation to broaden the base of Lonrho's United Kingdom operations.

Lonrho said it intended that future management policies would maintain the high quality of House of Fraser goods to safeguard the reputation of the group stores, including the unique international prestige of Harrods.

The document brought immediate response from the House of Fraser board, which issued a statement telling shareholders to reject the 150p a share offer as "totally unacceptable". The board is to write to shareholders shortly to give Fraser's profits and dividends for the year to the end of last month, together with details of the revaluation of the group's 112 stores on which much of the takeover defence will be based.

S. G. Warburg, House of Fraser's merchant bank advisers, said it was odd that Lonrho's document did not contain two normal statements saying that it intended to retain the present management and ownership of the whole group.

Lonrho's first date for acceptances will be in 21 days' time, after which the offer will be open for a further 14 days. Last night the Fraser share price eased a penny to 144p and Lonrho remained unchanged at 99p.

Lonrho is offering nothing to holders of any of the three Fraser non-voting preference shares. Under takeover rules, it does not have to, but it is usual to include these in any offer on a takeover of this size.

Financial Editor, page 19

Lloyd's chief wants backing for self-regulation Bill

By Richard Allen
Insurance Correspondent

Mr Peter Green, chairman of Lloyd's, has written to the market's 20,000 members seeking their help to smooth the parliamentary passage of the draft Bill to improve self-regulation.

A debate on the Bill, which has run into opposition from some Lloyd's members and a number of Conservative MPs on several counts, is expected to take place in the Commons next month.

Mr Green said members had given overwhelming support to the proposals. He urged them to call on their MPs to attend the debate, to ensure that the Bill moved into committee "where the various points at issue can be discussed in detail".

He said four aspects had led to concern and declared: "I am certain that common ground can be reached on all these points".

One particular cause of criticism has been the absence of a clause ensuring that Lloyd's will have the necessary power to deal effectively with "fraudulent" behaviour. Mr Green said that his committee had found a process by which this could be achieved.

Pergamon's BPC deal

The British Printing Corporation will become a subsidiary of Mr Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Press under a conditional agreement reached yesterday.

A statement from BPC, the printing and publishing group, said the agreement between Pergamon, BPC and its bankers, National Westminster, involved Pergamon injecting £10m of new capital into BPC.

If this is approved by a meeting of shareholders, it would result in BPC becoming a publicly-quoted subsidiary of Pergamon.

As part of the restructuring, Lord Kearton will be appointed as non-excutive chairman of BPC,

Private steel company granted £1.2m for modernization

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

The Government is to provide a grant of up to £450,000 to Aurora Steels as part of a £1.2m modernization and rationalization package.

The company, a subsidiary of Aurora Holdings, the Sheffield-based steel and engineering group, has negotiated the grant from the Department of Industry under section 7 of the Industry Act. The grant will be supplemented by a loan of £836,000 from the European Coal and Steel Community.

Aurora has been at the front of rationalization in the high alloy special steels industry. It formed its steel subsidiary after buying Edgar Allen Balfour and Samuel Osborne during the past three years.

The announcement follows several months of negotiations and the shedding of 2,000 workers from Aurora's total labour force over the past year.

But like all steelmakers, it has faced difficult trading and within the private sector there are fears of further substantial redundancies arising from the Government's attempts to reduce the overlap between the British Steel Corporation and private steel companies.

There is growing concern at the level of financial assistance which the Government is planning to make available to the BSC, and ministers expect considerable criticism from their back-bench MPs tomorrow when the Bill adjusting the corporation's borrowing powers is due to receive a second reading.

The Bill provides an increase of £500m to a new ceiling of £6,000m in British Steel's total borrowings, with provision for that ceiling to be raised to £7,000m.

Concern among the Government's own supporters has been reflected in a letter from the right wing Monday Club to Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, which said that the plan to reconstruct the BSC's finances could deal a "fatal blow" to the independent companies.

The provision of the grant to Aurora, based on the criteria that it will help to safeguard existing jobs, will be seen by other private sector companies as a possible means of securing assistance for their own restructuring.

In a statement yesterday, Aurora—which recorded a fall in first-half profits last year to £2.05m from £2.6m in the corresponding period a year earlier—said that the grant and loan would be used to invest in new plant, to carry through the planned closure of its Bradford steelmaking operation and to concentrate most of the group's steel production at Openshaw, Manchester and Ecclesfield, Sheffield.

After the reorganization, Aurora Steels will have a total capacity of 10,000 tonnes and will employ about 850.

Financial Editor, page 19

PRICE CHANGES

ises

ıvis G	13p to 170p	Middle Wits	20p to 660p
ectrolux 'B'	12p to 850p	Philips Lamps	12p to 342p
ers Gross	4p to 64p	Ranger Oil	10p to 645p
rrison Cros	12p to 787p	Rio Tinto Zinc	10p to 398p
nlys	4p to 81p	Willis Faber	8p to 286p

alls

	10p to 398p	Mercantile Hse	13p to 605p
rritron	3p to 13p	Midland Bank	13p to 325p
C	15p to 631p	Pilkington Bros	8p to 280p
nmerson 'A'	20p to 635p	Sun Life	8p to 262p
n Ship Canal	9p to 151p	Ultramar	10p to 473p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
ıstralia $	2.02	1.94	Norway Kr	12.97	12.32
ıstria Sch	37.30	35.10	Portugal Esc	133.50	127.00
lgium Fr	84.75	80.75	South Africa Rd	2.19	2.04
nada $	2.79	2.70	Spain Pta	202.50	193.50
nmark Kr	16.07	15.27	Sweden Kr	11.05	10.50
lland Mkk	9.77	9.27	Switzerland Fr	4.77	4.54
ance Fr	11.98	11.48	USA $	2.31	2.24
rmany DM	5.21	4.97	Yugoslavia Dnr	88.50	83.00
eece Dr	119.00	113.00			
ngkong $	12.45	11.85			
land Pd	1.40	1.34			
ly Lir	2520.00	2410.00			
pan Yn	494.00	468.00			
therlands Gld	5.64	5.38			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Distributor of wood-burning stoves out to raise £330,000 with shares

Euroflame offers a hot tip to the market

Followers of *The Good Life*, the television series in which a suburban couple abandoned modern household fittings to pursue a more natural lifestyle, may view with approval the latest applicant to the Stock Exchange's Unlisted Securities Market.

Euroflame Holdings, which is raising £330,000 through a placing with dealings starting on February 25, is a distributor of wood and solid fuel burning cookers and heaters.

The company was formed in 1976, the year of the very dry summer. But by the end of last year turnover reached £1.57m with pre-tax profits at £278,000.

Last October Tring Hall Securities took a 75 per cent stake in the company and is proposing to place 35.87 per cent of the 20p shares, at 30p.

The proceeds will be used to expand the group which is increasing its product range and is embarking on a television advertising campaign in rural areas.

Tring Hall will retain a 55.5 per cent stake in Euroflame and Mr John Viall, chairman and managing director, will hold 6.5 per cent while Mr Wynn Jones, the founder, will retain 2 per cent.

Dividends totalling 3p gross are promised for the current financial year and although there is no profits forecast because only six weeks' trading are behind the group and 60 per cent of turnover is made between October and December, Mr Viall said that he would be disappointed with profits of less than £450,000 on sales of £3m. At the 30p placing price, the yield is 10 per cent and the p/e ratio is 6.7.

Euroflame reckons it has 50 per cent of the wood burning and solid fuel heating and cooking appliance market. Judging by its unit sales of 7,500 last year, it probably has captured about 1 per cent of the United Kingdom cooker market.

Mr Viall and Tring Hall believe that with increased consciousness about energy costs, the area is ripe for expansion particularly because a Belgian group which manufactures under the brand name, Efel, its main supplier, has designed the equipment to be used with smokeless fuel as well as logs.

Although Euroflame estimates that wood costs about £30 a ton compared with £70 for the same amount of coal, supplies of timber, which have been plentiful after Dutch Elm disease, will shortly become more expensive.

City dwellers who have never been able to tap an easy supply of logs may be equally reluctant to renovate the coal cellar, despite rising prices of oil and gas.

On top of that Euroflame's stoves and cookers sell for between £200 and £850 each, which is cheaper than other solid fuel cookers like Aga which retail for about £1,200, but are comparable with Rayburn products in price.

Rival distributors claim that the market, traditionally linked with farm houses, is unlikely to expand dramatically beyond those concerned with quaint decor and a more homespun approach to living.

Rosemary Unsworth



Saudis near agreement on IMF loan

The International Monetary Fund and Saudi Arabia appear close to an agreement under which the latter would lend the fund billions of dollars to help it to meet increasing pressure from member countries for loans, according to monetary sources in Washington.

Under it Saudi Arabia would lend the equivalent of between $3,700m and $5,000m (between £1,608m and £2,174m) annually of surplus oil revenues over the next three years.

Anti-dumping duty

An anti-dumping duty of 4 *per cent has been imposed* by the European Commission on imports from the United States of styrene monomer, a raw material used in the manufacture of plastics. American sales into Europe, helped by artificially-low energy and feedstocks costs, rose 31 per cent between 1978 and the first half of last year.

Controls relaxed

Mr Owen Horwood, South African finance minister, has announced minor relaxations of foreign exchange control procedures. Travel allowances to other countries will be raised to 4,000 rand a year (about £1,900) and to 7,500 rand for business travel.

Qantas losses

Qantas, Australia's international airline is losing A$3m (£1.5m) a day because of strikes which have stranded thousands of passengers. A spokesman said all but one of the airline's 22 aircraft are grounded.

Hungarian loan

The National Bank of Hungary is raising $150m (£65m) through a consortium led by Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Company (KFTCIC) and Arab Banking *Corporation*.

£130m Colombian deal

An Italian consortium including GIE and Impreglio, the Fiat subsidiary, has won a 315,000m lire (about £130m) contract to build a hydroelectric plant at Betania on the Magdalena river in Colombia.

Cambridge unit to develop new technology for share of licence fees

Commercial consultancy will help inventors

A *new* channel for commercial exploitation of inventions and new technology has been opened by Cambridge Consultants, the Arthur D. Little subsidiary in Cambridge Science Park. Cambridge Enterprises, an independent unit within the consultancy, will work for clients in return for a share in licence fees and royalties.

The new unit, headed by Dr Robert Hook, *will invest in development leading* to prototypes and will meet other expenses at its own risk. But it will apply stringent criteria in its choice of inventions, accepting only those which, for example, will fulfil a sizable market need, can be protected by patents or otherwise, and are demonstrable with a limited amount of development.

The company will require exclusive management rights, but will forgo them if agreed results have not been achieved within a specified period. Inventors will normally share revenues equally with the company.

Cambridge Consultants has already launched a number of products from its own research and development and this work is expected to continue.

Technology News

An instrument that uses two laser beams to measure air pollutants over wide areas and in three dimensions has been developed for the Electric Power Research Institute in the United States by SRI International (formerly Stanford Research Institute).

The device, which is mounted in a trailer, is known as a differential absorption lidar, or Dial. Lidar (light direction and ranging) works in a manner similar to radar (radio direction and ranging). Laser pulses are transmitted and reflected and then measured on their return.

Beams of ultraviolet laser light are swept across a plume of emissions from a chimney stack and the concentrations of gases present are measured. The instrument can be used to survey an area as far as two miles from the emission source to determine where pollutants descend to earth.

Gases such as sulphur and nitrogen dioxides are given off when fossil fuels are burned to generate electricity. Limits have been set on such emissions, but it has been difficult to follow their dispersion after leaving the stacks.

The Dial system has been tested at Commonwealth Edison's Kincaid generating station near Springfield, Illinois, and it is now likely to be leased by other electric installations.

Dr Glenn Hilst, of the research institute, says that the new instrument collects in one hour data equal to that gathered by 1,000 ground-based air-sampling stations.

The institute, based in Palo Alto, California, is a non-profit research organization funded by more than 630 electric utility companies in the United States. SRI International is based in Menlo Park, near Palo Alto.

BMW, the German motor group and a leader in the application of microprocessors for cars, has devised a system which it claims will tell drivers when their vehicles need servicing.

The system was developed by BMW engineers at the company's headquarters at Munich to cut out unnecessary servicing and *to reduce motorists' costs*. It is based on the assumption that because everybody drives a car in a different manner, milage alone is a poor indicator of when to visit the garage.

A microelectronic monitor provides instant information about the state of the car's engine by recording the engine speeds that have been achieved, the milage, the engine oil temperature, and the time since the last service.

Herr Wolfgang Peter Flohr of BMW's customer service department said: "Just consider stop-and-go traffic in congested cities, of the many times you start your car with the engine still cold, especially in winter, of the numerous warming-up phases with the engine running at high speeds.

"Compared with such running conditions, long distance motoring with the engine at a constant temperature and engine speeds in the upper 'rev' range is quite a different matter."

The date for the introduction of the system as a standard feature has not been decided, but future BMW owners will find on the dashboard a panel of five green, one yellow and three red lights.

When the ignition is switched on, one or more of the green lights will come on to indicate the period up to the next service. When the engine fires, the green lamps go off and if the sensors detect that a service is needed, the yellow light will be switched on.

The red lights will come on only if the service interval has been exceeded. At the garage, a mechanic can cancel the lights and reset the system.

Kenneth Owen and Edward Townsend

Slump in textiles industry

By John Huxley

Employment in the cotton and allied textile industries declined by almost a third and output by about a quarter during 1980.

At the same time production of man-made fibres fell by almost 25 per cent to its lowest level since 1967. Deliveries to the domestic market were down by almost 30 per cent, largely because of increased imports from the United States, according to the British Man-made Fibres Federation.

Publication of the figures yesterday coincided with a lobby of MPs by several thousand workers in the clothing, textiles and footwear industries.

Before the lobby, which was organized by the Trades Union Council, clothing union leaders said that unless there was an improvement in the industry's fortunes about 100,000 jobs could be lost in 1981.

According to the Textile Statistics Bureau in Manchester employment in the cotton and allied textile industry fell by more than 19,500 to 63,530 in 1980.

Production of man-made fibres in 1980 was only 449,730 tonnes.

£32.5m Welsh plant will bring 3,000 jobs

Directors of the Canadian-based Mitel Corporation yesterday announced details of a £32.5m investment in a new European headquarters in South Wales.

The plant, at Caldicot, Gwent, will provide 1,700 jobs by the end of 1984 and as many as 3,000 jobs by 1990, considerably more than the expansion plan announced earlier this months.

The company will build a 265,000 sq ft factory on an 18-acre site purchased from the Welsh Development Agency.

A large number of employees will be former steelworkers. The company has applied for a £16m loan from the European Coal and Steel Community, and the British Steel Corporation is to help with re-training. The Government will also provide a regional development grant.

Mr Terry Matthews, Mitel's executive vice-president, said the plant would be a design centre for integrated circuits as well as a manufacturing centre for PABX telephone switchboards. The company hopes to produce up to 30,000 units a year at the plant, with more than 60 per cent going for export.

On the choice of location, Mr Matthews said: "We were *primarily interested* in the availability of a skilled workforce, good communications and land for expansion for the future.

"But a large part of our choice was the warm welcome we received from Gwent County Council and the considerable amount of help we had from the Welsh Office. Negotiations which in other countries have taken a long time were speeded through in a matter of months."

The company, which was founded in Ontario in 1973 by Mr Matthews, who is Welsh, and Dr Michael Cowpland, another British engineer, has doubled its sales every year since its inception.

"There can be few companies with such a record for constantly achieving its sales *targets. It is almost becoming* a bore," Mr Matthews said. But he predicted that the rapid growth would continue. The company is now the world's largest manufacturer by volume of PABX units.

Details are being finalized on a contract to supply British Telecom with two models.

State holding companies advocated

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Sir Leslie Murphy, the former chairman of the National Enterprise Board, believes that the nationalized industries should be reconstituted as Companies Act concerns whose shares are held by four new holding companies.

Sir Leslie, who resigned from the NEB over the Government's decision to take over direct responsibility for Rolls-Royce, said in a lecture to the Institute of Administrative Management last night that holding companies should be established to cover the state owned energy, transport, communications and industrial industries.

They would have powers and duties similar to the policy councils advocated five years ago in a report to the National Economic Development Office.

They would be charged with agreeing corporate objectives and the strategies required to achieve them, and establishing performance criteria appropriate to the individual industry, endorsing corporate plans and monitoring performance.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Finance for UK steel

From Mr Michael Grylls, MP for North West Surrey (Conservative)

Sir, Last week's holding statement on the British Steel Corporation finances, by the Minister of State Norman Tebbit, showed that the Government recognized the almost incidental damage which could have been done to the existence of the up to now profitable private sector of the industry, through giving a blank cheque to BSC.

It would be a political *paradox and industrial disaster* if a Tory Government accepting the "slings and arrows" of adherence to market disciplines, with inevitable loss in popularity, should at the same time become the instrument of bringing about by proxy a totally nationalized United Kingdom steel industry.

Up to BSC's disastrous strike in 1980, the nationalized corporation had lost £1,528m, while independents in the overlap area have made profits of more than £700m in the same period. Both sectors are now faced with a disastrous recession in demand; some retrenchment in capacity is now inevitable, without reference to ideological divisions. Mr Ian MacGregor has shown he sympathizes with the plight of the independents by agreeing to talks.

However, it would be foolhardy to leave this retrenchment solely in the hands of a bankrupt Corporation, only kept alive by colossal transfusions of taxpayers money, at the expense of those independents who would have been the sole survivors if the pure market discipline had been applied.

The main task of BSC must be to manage the integrated strip mills and heavy plate and section mills, which are its monopoly in the United Kingdom and constitute three-quarters of its business. In financing this, the Government must ensure, by Directions under the Iron and Steel Acts, and by positive intervention under the Industry Act, or administratively, that the BSC rescue operation is not done at the expense of independent producers in the overlap area. If contraction or merger is required the Secretary of State has the power and the responsibility to ensure the national interest and the maximum support for private enterprise.

Let ministers insist on the establishment of Phoenix I—the marrying of Cardiff and BSC Scunthorpe, before handing over the cash.

MICHAEL GRYLLS,
Chairman,
Conservative Industry Committee,
House of Commons,
London, SW1A 0AA.

Too high a price for 'flat fare' buses

From Mr Arthur Super

Sir, London Transport has announced its intention to introduce a 25p "flat fare" on more than 250 suburban bus routes at the beginning of April. This will mean the disappearance of the present minimum fare of 12p, which will beyond any doubt cause hardship to many people.

I was astonished to read that London Transport intends to bring in the 25p fare even though it expects that up to 40 per cent of the passengers now using the 12p fare will stop using buses.

For years and years short distance passengers have been a substantial part of bus (and tube) travellers. Is it not the height of madness to fix a "flat fare" at a level that will drive away a large part of the people on whom London Transport must depend for its revenue. The advantages of "flat fare" travel will be bought at too high a price.

Yours faithfully,
A. SUPER,
49 Clapton Common,
London E5 9AA.
February 2.

Cutting import costs

From Mr A. D. P. Edwards

Sir, The article written by Patricia Tisdall (January 26) headed "How Your Buying Department Could Save You a Fortune" raises the vital issue of reducing manufacturing industries costs and claims that the British Institute of Management's recent report on this issue demonstrates how a 2 per cent reduction in the cost of purchases can yield a 10 per cent addition to profit.

The report, however, makes no mention of the saving that could be achieved by British importers if only they paid greater attention to the appropriate use of currencies when placing orders on overseas suppliers.

The vast bulk of imports into this country are invariably paid for in foreign currencies, which means that the United Kingdom importer must either "take a view" on the future trend of the exchange rate, which is rather akin to running a casino, or he must buy the appropriate currency forward. As most currencies in which we pay for our imports have been at a premium for the last 30 years it means that our importers have been paying over the odds simply for the privilege of paying their suppliers in their own currencies.

For example, a recent purchase of capital equipment from Germany payable in Deutschmarks over three years entailed the importer paying an additional sum by way of premium of no less than £300,000 purely for the privilege of paying his supplier in his own currency. This situation, at a time when we are all living in a buyer's market, must make a nonsense and in this particular instance entailed the importer in an additional cost of 14 per cent on the face value of his order.

In the case illustrated above as well as other imports from countries whose currencies are at a premium, the importer should insist on a firm sterling price calculated as near to the spot rate as he can negotiate. It is estimated that, as a nation, our importers on average must be incurring an additional cost of between 5 per cent and 10 per cent on the vast majority of our imports and if the BIM report is *anything to go by, a reduction* in this figure would have an enormous effect on the profitability and competitiveness of British industry.

Yours faithfully,
A. D. P. EDWARDS,
309, Seddon House,
Barbican,
London, EC2Y 8BX.

Authentic tartan

From Dr A. W. F. Erskine

Sir, I note with interest the caption beneath the photograph in the business section of *The Times* of February 3 ". . . Not all tartans are as authentic as this Erskine".

I wonder how authentic is authentic; I had always been given to understand that mine like that of all lowland families had been devised in the reign of George IV by a Pole in Edinburgh. The authentic tartans were those worn by the highland clans proscribed after Culloden as an emblem of the Jacobites. The grandfathers of the lowlanders who came out in this picturesque fancy dress would have turned in their graves at this adoption of such savage highland customs.

Being no kill-joy, however, I may say that I have worn my present kilt—Erskine—for nearly 50 years on appropriate occasions.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. F. ERSKINE,
130 Walm Lane,
London NW2 4RT.
February 5.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

BAe proves the small investor is still alive

nyone and everyone connected with the British Aerospace launch were patting hemselves on the back yesterday over its ncouraging reception.

In contrast, the stockmarket was taking he more prosaic view that the 3½ times ver subscription was not as great as xpected, although it is quite likely that a umber of institutions had pulled in their agging horns because of the medium-term rofit worries implicit in the prospectus.

The overriding impression is that the ublicity machine put into top gear for this rucial Government privatization step has icked in many more small investors, ullible or otherwise, than a run-of-the-mill ffer for sale.

Excluding employees, the 155,000 applica- ons is a very high figure compared with ly the 36,000 applications for the 88 times ver subscribed Eurotherm issue two years go. While it is always hard to generalize bout the source of share applications— stitutions do not always apply in their own ames and wealthy individuals often use a ominee—the sheer weight of small investor terest has allowed this to be satisfied in ll. Best guesses yesterday were that ughly 80 per cent of the 100m shares on fer will end up in small shareholders' ands.

leinwort Benson, the issuing house, main- ined yesterday that in arriving at the basis allocation while satisfying the Govern- ent's wish to favour small shareholders it as taken full regard of institutional demand well and if it is right there is unlikely to much pent-up demand from institutions ustrated by the basis of allocation.

Yet that 80/20 split hardly corresponds to e normal pattern of equity shareholdings. even though there is a ready institutional petite for a much better than average gineering share like BAe, the degree of ivate stagging in this issue suggests there uld be a steady tap especially if the stock- arket has as poor a run-up to the budget it did yesterday.

The institutions will then not be willing chase the price too high and the expected per cent premium when dealings start on iday may not last all that long.

urora

perational earing

rice movements tell their own story as the eady fall of the shares of Aurora Holdings, private steel maker and engineer, shows. ver 18 months the shares have fallen from p to only 26p now; the stock market feels at after a maintained interim dividend, the al is in some doubt, yet the balance sheet stronger than it might appear at first ince.

Yesterday Aurora announced the success- l raising of nearly £1.3m of new money at vourable rates from the Department of dustry and the European Steel and Coal mmunity. These loans which were first quested in 1979, will be used to rationalize group's steel activities, which, after the quisition of Samuel Osborne and Edgar len, are now to be concentrated in two es instead of seven.

But steel only accounts for some 15 per nt of the group's business. The rest is a atter of engineering companies, most of ich have followed the engineering trends Britain and have been under recessionary essure. But the two companies in New aland and Australia are highly profitable. Although profits will inevitably be sub- antially down on the £3.8m, however, urora may survive the present recession tter than some which are in the same edicament.

Over the past year it has taken action to prove its finances. It has sold properties d various assets in an attempt to reduce uncomfortable borrowings.

In last year's balance sheet, borrowings re 107 per cent of shareholders' funds, t thanks to the action taken—even though terest payments will rise from some £3.5m probably £6.5m—it has managed to de- ar slightly to around 100 per cent of share- lders's funds.

Stocks which in the balance sheet appear £44m have almost certainly fallen. If the recession tapers off soon and is followed by a recovery a highly-geared company like Aurora could yet stage a sharp recovery.

The shares are on a prospective yield of 8.3 per cent assuming no final and a p/e ratio of around 5 if the group makes, say, £2.75m profit—but that is an optimistic assumption.

House of Fraser

Lonrho applies pressure

Not surprisingly, the offer document from Lonrho detailing its 150p a share cash bid for House of Fraser is a slim volume. Mr Rowland's camp, presumably feeling that only a Monopolies Commission reference or the emergence of a counter-bidder could bar its path, does not feel it necessary to waste words on exhortations to Fraser shareholders at this stage.

Interestingly, a proforma statement of combined assets, deducting the £161m total cost of the bid from group resources—but of course ahead of Fraser's much vaunted asset revaluation—shows a combined group with net assets of 174p and gearing, excluding Lonrho's confirming activities, of around 75 per cent.

After the revaluation, however, combined net assets could presumably rise from £453m to something over 600m and reduce gearing to nearer 50 per cent, producing what looks like a very good deal for Lonrho in balance sheet terms, notwithstanding the traditional argument about returns on retail assets.

The revaluation, of course, will be a major plank of Fraser's defence, but one which Lonrho may not have too much difficulty in knocking down. Its own shares stand at 99p, representing a 43 per cent discount on net assets; Woolworth's share price is but a third of assets on a historical valuation and Debenham's under a half.

Meanwhile, with full-year figures approaching which could put an exit p/e ratio on Lonrho's offer of something like 18, Professor Roland Smith's team at Fraser may have their work cut out even to push Lonrho up to 175p a share mark, which market observers see as the optimum figure.

● *A casual observer may be forgiven if he found himself bemused by yesterday's events. Here was the Department of Trade reporting by far the biggest monthly trade surplus ever recorded—a massive £957m on current account—yet there was sterling finishing the day almost 3 cents lower against the dollar at $2.2570.*

As far as sterling's performance is concerned, the explanation is very simple. International investors are continuing to scramble aboard the dollar bandwagon as fast as they can. President Reagan is the man of the moment; the dollar the currency of the moment. How long all this will last is another matter. Certainly, the free fall possibilities given any reversal in sentiment are frightening.

On the face of it, there is no reason why the present honeymoon period with the dollar under new management should not last for some time. Tomorrow the President will unveil a major programme of public spending cuts. The Federal Reserve has already pinned its colours to the mast of sound money.

So what are the problems? First, there is the question of the overall fiscal strategy. Taking in proposed tax cuts, will the overall package add up? Secondly, there is the question of the Fed's response to what the President proposes. The niggling doubt on this score must be that a promising looking fiscal package might be used to justify the acceleration in dollar interest rate cuts that some European governments are now extremely keen to see.

What, then, of the UK's January trade surplus? Even allowing for a number of favourable factors, such as a particularly favourable position on the oil account, the surplus is enormous and looks to be almost wholly attributable to the continuing impact of domestic destocking on imports. While that suggests further improvement in the liquidity position of the corporate sector, it also raises the question as to the nature of the balancing outflow on capital account.

Hugh Stephenson

A waking nightmare for the Chancellor

The letters MTFS may not instantly evoke a response from the man in the Clapham omnibus, but they must now be haunting the waking hours of Sir Geoffrey Howe in the run up to his third full Budget. For, as every reader of this newspaper knows, they stand for the medium-term financial strategy, which is Sir Geoffrey's personal contribution to the form and content of the Budget speech.

The MTFS when it was unveiled after much internal argument and agonizing about the wisdom of giving such a hostage to fortune, was not to be confused with an old-style "national plan". It was concerned only with those very few things over which the Government has actual control.

These were asserted to be government borrowing, government spending, government taxing and the supply of money in the economy. Targets for each of these magnitudes were set out for the four years to the end of this Parliament in a pattern consistent with a steady fall in the rate of inflation.

It is necessary to spell out the bits of the MTFS in order to see the practical and presentational problem that faces the unhappy official in the Treasury *even now working on a stiff early draft* of what the Chancellor will eventually say on March 10.

For at the heart of the strategy "is a target for a steadily declining growth of the money supply, that is set alongside policies for Government spending and taxation which will underpin that objective" (Chancellor, March 26, 1980). The rationale of this policy was that "inflation cannot persist in the long run unless it is accommodated by an excessive expansion of money and credit".

When, eight months later, the Chancellor was once again standing to make a mini-budget statement to the House he had in effect to admit that as of that moment all previous statements about monetary targets had become inoperative. "But", he said, "I shall announce a new target in the Budget."

In the time that has passed since that promise last November attitudes to monetary targets have undergone something of a change. The measure *chosen for the target, the celebrated* "sterling M3" has been losing friends.

The betting is that the target announced on March 10 will be *expressed in* terms of more than one measure and will in general have a more flexible and discretionary quality than the March 1980 version.

The MTFS *waking nightmare,* however, is not really to do with the money supply targets which have caused so much embarrassment. Certainly there are technical and presentational problems in this area. It seems to be proving, for example, much more difficult than the Chancellor supposed in November to produce a sensible definition of money that separates out retail deposits in the banking system. The central problem for the Chancellor has much more to do with what he called *the underpinnings,* government spending and taxation.

For in order to achieve the orderly reduction of monetary growth and inflationary expectations over a four-year period, without creating extra and intolerable upward pressures on interest rates, the strategy assumed a steady fall in the volume of government spending over the four years, combined with a steady growth of tax and other revenues over the same period. This was to have *given the Government a borrowing re*quirement falling both in absolute terms and plummeting as a percentage of the gross domestic product from 3¾ per cent in the current financial year to 1½ per cent in 1983-84.

Alas, as we already know, this year's borrowing will not be £8,500m, but nearer £13,000m to £14,000m. More serious from the point of view of the MTFS, two years of continual public expenditure cutting exercise has resulted in a situation where spending levels this year will be some 1½ per cent higher than they were forecast to be at the outset.

The chances of the volume of public spending actually being reduced year by year over the rest of this Parliament are effectively zero. For it is clear that Mrs Thatcher's government has exhausted its physical, emotional and political capacity to go through another major cutting exercise. And in that case the inherent upward pressures for more spending will reassert themselves in the next three years.

Trouble on the road to Alexandria

Cairo

Going into a joint venture with a government-backed company ought to be a fairly painless procedure. Chloride, the world's largest manufacturer of car *batteries, obviously thought* so. It was wrong.

Chloride Egypt was established last year as a joint ven*ture between Chloride and the* Egyptian public sector General Company for batteries, "Genbat". Production is due to start at a new plant in 1982. Last June, however, the company ended up in the Egyptian courts.

It faced the charge that it was a "conspiracy against the Egyptian public sector"—and the possibility of an immediate *injunction bringing the project* to a halt. In December, after *six months of hearings,* a lower court found in favour of the *defendants. Now the case* goes to the Egyptian Supreme Council for review.

The case was brought by two local unions, the General Engineering Union and the Genbat Labour Union. The defendants are Chloride Egypt, the Egyptian ministers for economics and industry, and Genbat's chairman.

The unions have been backed, *Chloride's legal advisers* claim, by "well known left-wing sympathizers", who oppose the breaking up of Egypt's unwieldy public sector, established as part of Gamal Abdul Nasser's ineffective industrialization programme during the 1950s and 1960s.

By taking Chloride to court, the unions were making a public attack on President Sadat's open door policy, which seeks to attract foreign investment by offering a number of incentives, with the aim of increasing Egypt's poor industrial output.

Had Chloride lost the case, the effects on future investment by foreign companies would have been disastrous, says Mr Andrew Cameron, Chloride Egypt's managing director. As it is, news of the case has already driven away at least one major investment project from Egypt, and stalled investment decisions by other companies.

Mr Cameron dismisses as "scurrilous accusations" the charges *brought against* Chloride, which included allegations that Chloride was a "bad" company, that *illegalities had taken place in the* establishment of the joint venture, and that Chloride had been granted a monopoly.

The single charge with substance was that Chloride will employ only 70 per cent of the workforce at the existing *Genbat lead acid factory, which* will close down when the new plant starts production. But the remaining 30 per cent, who as public sector workers cannot be *dismissed, will be reabsorbed* elsewhere.

In Chloride's view, the company will benefit the local *economy. The batteries pro*duced by the new plant will be of an international exportable standard, unlike Genbat's *present poor quality product.*

Local newspapers have been aggressive. The government newspaper *El-Masaa* carried a *long two-part article on* the affair, under the banner headline "100 per cent successful Egyptian company being sold to *unsuccessful English company".*

Chloride was being given benefits "no less than those *received by de Lesseps when* he built the Suez Canal", the article suggested. This was an apparent reference to the 4 per cent royalty on net *profits* which will go as a licence fee to the Chloride group. Accentuating the charge of "foreign exploitation", a cartoon showed a fang-toothed capitalist, wearing a hat labelled "foreign companies" swallowing an Egyptian peasant, marked "public sector".

Such criticism has not been lost on the Egyptian Government. In June last year, Dr Abdul Rezzas Abdul Meguid, the deputy prime minister for the economy, stated that no more deals of the Chloride variety would take place. He denied charges by union leaders that the public sector was being "sold off".

For Chloride, the affair has been a frustrating waste of time and effort. "We have just spent three years of negotiations to get ourselves established, and now we find ourselves involved in civil litigation at our own expense," says Mr Cameron, "even though no illegitities had taken place, we had to go to a lot of trouble to prepare a proper defence."

Nor has the path for Chloride Egypt been smooth in other directions. Allotted a place on an "industrial estate" on the desert road to Alexandria, the company has found itself entirely responsible for providing infrastructure.

"We have had to build our own road to our site." says Mr Cameron. "We are having to pay for the electricity to be supplied from the distribution station, and we are having to build the distribution station for the electricity authorities.

"We are now having to lay our own four-kilometre pipeline for water, and we are having to put in our own sewage disposal units. There are no plans for laying cables, no telephone and no plans for telephone lines."

Kate Finch

Raising the roof over rates

Patricia Tisdall

The campaign by business against local authority rate increases, which has been rumbling on for the last year or so, will reach a new crescendo tomorrow at the monthly meeting *of the grand council of the Con*federation of British Industry.

Mr Bryan Rigby, the CBI's deputy director-general, will present a review which warns members to prepare for increases which could average at least 20 per cent. His report is likely to stoke up the bitter resentment felt by industrialists. Some angry words are going to be heard in the council chamber.

Mr Rigby argues that instead of 20 per cent, average rate increases this year should be practically nil since last year's rates were based on projected expenditure 5 per cent higher than government guidelines.

While precise details of the increases are still being finalized, it is already clear that there are considerable variations. Metropolitan areas in general will be hit hardest and particularly large rise are expected in inner London.

The CBI, whose Centre Point headquarters comes within the Camden boundaries, is expecting a 50 per cent rise in its own rates bill. "This will add about £250,000 to our overheads, the equivalent of about 40 jobs, and we cannot put up subscriptions by anything like that amount" Mr Rigby points out, adding wryly that the only consolation is that the TUC (whose headquarters are only a few streets away) is in the same boat.

"*The place where it is really* hurting though is out in the North and North-west. Sheffield is expecting to have to pay 37.6 *per cent more this year while* at Leeds the increase will be about 25 per cent. . . . Rate levies are totally out of propor*tion to companies'* ability to pay."

The absence of any relationship between a company's *prosperity and its liability* for rates explains why businessmen are bitter not just about the increases but about the whole *rating system.*

An unprofitable business on the point of closure and working short-time will pay the same *as if it was operating prosper*ously at full capacity.

The CBI *calculates* that rates *payments have grown from* 9.7 per cent of gross profits in 1973 to 11.3 per cent by 1977. For this financial year it is esti*mated by Professor Foster of* the London School of Economics that this proportion is in the region of 35 per cent.

Businessmen feel that rates are an unfair local tax because they have no democratic control over what they pay or how the money is spent. *While* some local government services such as roads, planning, education and housing are vital to business, others *like* parks and personal social services are less important. Unless they live in the same area as they work, business ratepayers have no vote in local elections and so do not have the normal channels through which to express their views.

The problem is that the CBI at least does not think that any of the various alternatives suggested so far (including the replacement of domestic rates by a local income tax as proposed by Mr Gerald Kaufman, the Opposition spokesman on the environment, at the weekend) would be any improvement.

Not that Mr Rigby or the confederation have been idle. There has been much activity on two fronts during the past year. At the local level individual employers are being urged to apply self help by involving themselves in the affairs of their local councils—encouraging employees to stand as councillors; scrutinizing local authority *accounts and expendi*ture plans; relating the cost of rates to jobs, prices or other specific yardsticks and generally *joining in a constructive* dialogue with their town halls.

At national level, there is more or less continuous toing *and froing* between the CBI and Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment and his departmental offi*cials.*

Some small encouragement is drawn by three specific measures designed to help busi*ness ratepayers* which were introduced in the 1980 Local Government, Planning and Land Act. These gave business ratepayers the right to pay by instalment; reduced the maximum which could be levied on empty premises, and suspended the mandatory surcharge on unused commercial property which was introduced by the 1974 Local Government Act.

More important, Mr Rigby thinks, is the obligation now placed on local authorities to *start producing* information in a form which will enable comparisons to be made more easily between the performance *of different local authorities.* The next step will be the production of definitions of the standard of service provided, so *that "people can choose* whether to have a Rolls-Royce standard in some services and pay accordingly".

This comparative information should start to be published this year as part of the rate demand note. The new annual reports which local authorities will be required to publish should start appearing next year. But everyone concerned, particularly Department of Environment officials (who are said to be "appalled" at the prospect of having to draw up the definition) agree that there are problems in defining standards of service.

"I *really would not expect* dramatic results in only a year" Mr Rigby says with resignation. Nevertheless, he *considers that some definitions* must have already been worked out by Department of Environment officials in order for the *new system of block grants to* have been introduced. Improved quantification and evaluation of services is also taking place as *more councils consider using* outside contractors and start weighing up tenders on a value for money basis.

As far as the immediate future is concerned the CBI, as well as the chambers of commerce and other business representatives, are pressing for an upper limit on business rate increases to protect their members from excessive local authority spending and for "mothballing relief", which would exclude business property which is temporarily out of commission from liability for rates, as a modest stop gap.

Business Diary: Mars bringer of lore ● Moneysyllabic

anagers, beware — another nd of "*ologist*" *is* moving in tell you your business.

He is Gerald Mars, an anthropologist at the Middlesex Poly, 10 has written what could be seminal article for Rain, the wletter of the Royal Anthro*pological Institute.*

Mars's article, entitled "The thropology of Managers", rs there is not any such thropology, although there ould be because managers so thick that they need to put right, and *secondly,* cause this "virgin field" ers "the greatest oppor- nity" for the employment of thropologists.

The main drawback, however, not the intransigence of nagers, but that anthropolo- ts themselves are too dim ars says "ethnocentric") to the main chance.

Mars illustrates his article th examples of management's n ethnocentricity. He cites ks (unperceived by all save sing anthropologists) be- een the failure of a piece- rk scheme and the sex life factory girls in the north of gland and of a warehouse remen promotion scheme in nning Town, London, which undered because it upset the en's system for distributing len goods.

By some stroke of manage- ent, good or otherwise, the yal Anthropological Institute now offering up to 75p for argently needed" back num- rs of Rain.



"With stocks as they are how many years would a coal strike have to last?"

● The Prime Minister's repeated assertions that her Government will not have recourse to *the printing presses* to finance higher public spending—likely to be reiterated when the money supply figures *come out on* Thursday—must be a continual source of puzzlement to the 2,000 workers at the Bank of England's printing works at Loughton, Essex.

There, every day, they print about eight million crisp banknotes—worth about £30m—to be checked, bundled and wrapped (appropriately on an adapted bread-wrapping machine), *and sent out* for eventual distribution by the commercial banks.

Not surprisingly £1 notes have a busy but brief existence —less than a year on average— before becoming too dirty and dog-eared to use, though larger denomination notes last rather longer. This means that the Bank of England scraps nearly as many notes as it prints. With about 34 notes for each head of the population circulating at *any one time,* the Bank has to scrap and print 30 of these every year just to keep the circulation constant.

What then does Mrs Thatcher mean by "printing money"? She is in fact talking about government borrowing from the banks. If the Government cannot borrow enough from the non-bank public, by way of gilt-edged stock or national savings, for example, it can continue to write out cheques to pay for its spending in the normal way. These cheques get deposited with the recipients' banks, who turn to the Bank of England for payment.

Instead of bouncing the cheques, the Bank pays them with government IOUs such as Treasury bills and government stocks. "Printing money" thus *means selling more government* debt to the banks, not alas issuing more oncers and fivers.

● Sir Kenneth Corfield, chairman and chief executive of ITT's Standard Telephones and Cables, now heads the short list for the chairmanship of the Government's projected Engineering Council, seen as the new watchdog body for engineers following the publication of the Finniston report on *our manufacturing ills.*

He has displaced from pole position names like Lord Caldecote of Delta Metal and Sir *Robert Clayton of the General* Electric Company.

Sir Kenneth is one engineer who successfully crossed the *divide into management and has* a reputation as a hard-nosed realist.

Engineering institutions, as ever, are still agonizing over how far to support the new council and the question is how far Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, will go in allowing the council's charter to be watered down.

Sir Kenneth, who is a fellow of engineering, is unlikely to want to take over an organization which, as somebody remarked recently, could so easily turn into a seized-up *lawnmower rather than the* massive "engine for change" called for by Sir Monty Finniston. But if he takes the job it should indicate that he has Sir Keith's backing in turning the new council into a power in the land.

Although Sir Kenneth has steered clear of politics he is no stranger to the Whitehall corridors, particularly in his work with the National Economic Development Office for which he produced a paper, before Sir Monty's report, *slamming engineers* who chased ideas rather than products that would sell.



● The Institute of Trade Mark Agents, the people who stop you pinching other people's names—or their pinching yours —celebrates its 40th anniversary in 1984.

By then, however, Itma hopes to have put paid to a controversy almost as long-running as the wartime radio comedy programme of the same name.

This is the question of whether the institute, which has 800 members, should or should not merge with the older-established Chartered Institute of Patent Agents.

It has been droning on for 10 years, and Keith Havelock, Itma president, the leader of the pro-*merger faction, tells me it is* going to be a close thing.

He says the merger would enhance the standing of trade mark agents. A younger element says the same could be achieved by an autonomous but more lively Itma council. There is to be an Itma pow-wow in London today, followed by the issue of voting papers and a decision in April-perhaps.

Ross Davies

Stock markets

Index suffers sharpest fall in two months as fears of miners strike hits confidence

Fears of a confrontation between the miners and the Government combined with the latest gloomy report on the economy sent share prices into sharp reverse yesterday.

As the three-week account entered its second stage, jobbers encountered heavy profit taking as investors offloaded stock after recent gains.

Not even the trade figures, announced at 3.30 pm and at the better end of expectations with a net surplus of £957m during January, offered any consolation to equities. Dealers could only look on and watch as prices drifted steadily lower. Talk centred on the miners' strike today and memories of the Heath Government's downfall.

Confidence was also badly affected by a report from the Charterhouse Group that the end of destocking by companies presented a "false dawn" and that the present slump would be worse than that of 1929-32.

Sentiment was also upset after hours by rumours that one of the smaller institutions was in trouble and about to go under.

As a result the *FT* Index, which had drifted all day, closed 8.7 lower at 484.5, its biggest fall since December 11.

However, there were several bright spots particularly in insurance brokers where the latest fall in the value of sterling, after recommendations by Prof Alan Walters, the Prime Minister's economics adviser, pushed prices higher.

Government securities recovered in the wake of the trade figures but turnover was described as low and conditions thin. Rises in longs ranged up to £¼, while in shorts improvements of around £⅛ were recorded.

Leading industrials saw **ICI** tumble 8p to 292p as jobbers bought stock. **Glaxo** lost 6p to 264p, **Unilever** 5p to 453p, **Hawker Siddeley** 6p to 266p, **Lucas Industries** 3p to 159p, **GKN** 4p to 148p and **Metal Box** 6p to 186p. **BOC International** reporting later this week eased 2p to 118p.

Adverse comment ahead of Lloyds Bank's figures on Friday saw another shakeout in banks, where speculation persists about a windfall tax in the Budget on March 10.

Lloyds itself, where the market is taking a pessimistic view, dropped 11p to 325p. **Barclays** fell 11p to 395p, while **Midland** 13p to 325p and **National Westminster** 11p to 365p.

The falling pound has **CE Heath** 10p higher at 208p. **Willis Faber** put on 8p to 286p and **Sedgwick Group** added 3p to 121p. **Minet Holdings** held steady at 94p. But among the composites **Commercial Union** fell 1p to 149p, **General Accident** 4p to 292p, **Royal Insurance** 4p to 356p and **Sun Alliance** 2p to 752p.

Properties saw profit taking after recent improvements with **MEPC** 5p cheaper at 236p, **Land Securities** down 10p at 396p and **Hammerson "A"** 20p lower at 635p. But **MP Kent** rose 6p to 118p after announcing a City of London property deal worth £2.4m and **Countryside Properties** hardened 2p to 79p on the formation of a new property investment company.

Shares of **Thomson T-Line** were suspended at 67p after a bid approach and the sale of J. F. Nash of its 11 per cent stake to an unknown buyer. Meanwhile, shares of **Crest International** returned to the market in their new form at 10p and quickly rose to 14p.

Leading industrials bore the brunt of yesterday's reversal stemming from the miners' threatened strike action. Among those most severely hit was Beecham where rumours of over 1m shares on offer at 183p sent the price plunging 8p to 178p.

On the bid front, **London Sumatra** rose 3p to 358p on further consideration of its approach to **Harrison & Crosfield**, 13p stronger at 788p.

In foods comment on the possible outcome of the bid by **S & W Berisford**, down 1p at 180p, and now resting with the Monopolies and Mergers Commision, saw **British Sugar** unchanged at 263p while **United Biscuits** was 2p lighter at 86p. **Associated Fisheries** reporting Thursday, slipped 2p to 53p.

Favourable weekend comment was good for a 13p rise in **Godfrey Davis** at 170p while adding 4p to **Henlys** at 81p and 4p to **Geers Gross** at 64p. But adverse mention left **Carrington Viyella** *1½p easier at 11½p in textiles.* Speculative buying ahead of figures due out in April added 2½p to **Queen's Moat Hotel** at 41p with **J. Jarvis** another firm spot, 14p better at 166p. Profit taking left **Matthew Hall** 21p lower at 345p and in engineering **Davy Corporation** retreated another 6p to 142p still fighting off the advances of **Enserch** from the United States.

In shipping, **Reardon Smith "A"** ended a good run, slipping 6p to 149p along with **Walter Runciman**, 5p off at 138p. Recent losses continue to upset **Manchester Ship Canal**, 9p down at 151p.

The tight conditions of late in stores showed some easing with **GUS "A"** 1p lower at 485p, **BHS** *2p off at 154p and* **Boots** down 7p at 246p. **House of Fraser** closed 1p down at 144p after the release of the official offer document from **Lonrho**, unchanged at 99p.

Rediffusion climbed 6p to 124p in electricals after the sale of its Hongkong interests with **Sound Diffusion** hardening 3p to 79p on the back of press comment. Elsewhere in electricals, **Hoover** eased 2p to 128p ahead of figures this week, while **GEC** lost 15p to 631p, **Racal** 1p to 338p and **Plessey** 2p to 301p.

Drake & Scull managed a 1p rose to 34p despite a profits setback which had been widely expected.

Oils spent a lacklustre session with prices marked sharply lower despite the general lack of selling pressure. Among the majors **BP** fell below the £4 mark with 10p fall to 398p while **Ultramar** shed a similar amount at 473p and **Shell** lost 8p to 410p. **Burmah** was another weak market, losing 5p to 179p, as was **Lasmo**, down 25p to 644p. **Berkeley Exploration** slipped 3p to 243p.

RTZ was the main feature in an otherwise dull mining sector, rising 10p to 398p amid press comment. **Cons Gold Fields** improved 3p to 426p in sympathy. Among gold shares, **W. Rand Cons** advanced 6p to 171p, **Bracken Mines** 7p to 155p and **Middle Wits** 20p to 660p, but **Elsburg Gold** fell 8p to 164p and **Sentrust** 10p to 310p.

Equity turnover on February 13 was £119,607m (15,228 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, Shell, ICI, BP, Godfrey Davis, Fisons, GKN, Plessey, Land Securities, Beecham, Geers Gross, Marks & Spencer, Metal Box, Racal, Cons Gold and Distillers.

Traded options: The setback in equities resulted in a quiet session, although Marks & Spencer attracted 355 contracts out of a total of 708.

Traditional options were also in a subdued mood although calls were made in FNFC at 2½p and Newman Industries at 3¾p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Drake & Scull (F)	94.7(73.06)	2.17(2.63)	—(—)	1.5(1.5)	8/4	2.7(2.7)
West & C'try Prps (I)	1.39(0.7)	0.17(0.15)	4.3(2.9)	1.25(1)	30/4	—(3.0)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net.

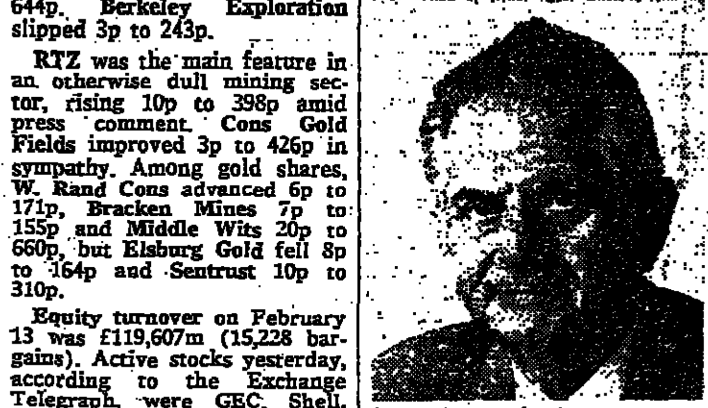
Drake & Scull dips but payout is held

By Peter Wainwright

Drake & Scull Holdings, the mechanical, electrical and general engineer, lifted turnover from £73.06m to £94.7m, but lowered pretax profits from £2.63m to £2.17m in the year to October 31. But dealers were relieved that the fall was no worse and the directors, led by Sir Monty Finniston, maintained the gross dividend at 3.93p a share, with a 2.15p final.

The shares duly hardened 1p to 34p. At one time last year they were 47p.

The fall reflected a loss from one of the associated companies and competition pressing on profit margins. But in 1979,



Sir Monty Finniston, chairman of Drake & Scull

the group had to set aside £901,000 in deferred tax, the main component of a total tax charge of £1.15m.

This year the group has set aside no such provision, thanks to proposed changes in tax law on stock appreciation relief. That took the total charge down to £690,000, which meant that net profits ended only £2,000 down at £1,48m.

The group has also taken credit for the sale for £551,000 of the Greyfriars Centre, Ipswich. The result was that attributable profits actually rose from £1.73m to £2.72m. Earnings a share (before extraordinary items) slipped only slightly from 6.7p to 6.2p.

At half-time, shareholders were told that unavoidable delays in several big overseas contracts were to blame for a drop of nearly 40 per cent in pretax profits.

The group has, then, made good its indication of turnover for the year beating £80m and recovered in terms of profits to the point where annual profits were only 17 per cent down.

There is still, however, no word of the group's acquisition programme. In the last accounts, the late chairman spoke of an active appraisal of several companies. But no outstanding prospects on acceptable terms were found.

But he added that 1980 would prove to be a year of opportunity for companies with well proven management and healthy cash resources. With the latest figures, it is reported that shareholders' funds rose by £1.86m to £4.86m.

Rediffusion sells Hongkong TV stake for £9.7m

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Rediffusion, the 58 per cent-owned British Electric Traction subsidiary with interests in television rental, computers and broadcasting, is finally cutting its losses in Hongkong. In a £9.7m cash deal, Rediffusion is selling a controlling interest in its 81 per cent owned television station, Rediffusion Television Ltd of Hongkong (RTV) to a consortium of Australian companies.

The station has been a perennial lossmaker ever since Rediffusion was granted a broadcasting licence in Hongkong seven years ago and with ungroupable annual losses in the region of £2m a year, has been a constant drain on the group whose latest results for the half-year to September 30 showed pretax profits of £6.97m on sales of £108m.

Mr David Smith, company secretary, said that RTV "hasn't made a profit yet," but was not prepared to disclose the accumulated loss over the years. "We haven't ever published them", he said. However, on the basis of £2m annual losses, RTV is thought to have cost Rediffusion well over £10m since its inception, because of its failure to lift ratings and draw enough advertising revenue.

Rediffusion retains 19.9 per cent in RTV but with no obligation to provide further capital There is no further write-dow[n] on the sale.

Of the HK$120m (£9.7m) con[sideration], HK$80m is for th[e] property and the rest for othe[r] assets, plus a small element o[f] goodwill. The deal is subject t[o] approval of the Hongkong gov[ernment].

Relieved that Rediffusion ha[s] finally extricated itself fro[m] Hongkong losses, the stock ma[r]ket pushed the shares up 6p t[o] 124p, adding nearly £5m to th[e] group's market value.

The Australian consortium which ends up with 61.2 pe[r] cent of RTV, leaving existin[g] Hongkong shareholders wi[th] 18.9 per cent, comprises Davi[d] Syme and Co and Henry Jone[s] (IXL) involved in newspaper[s] and broadcasting respectivel[y]. The third member is RTZ su[b]sidiary, CRA with a wide rang[e] of mining interests.

A joint statement read: "Th[e] consortium is confident that b[y] combining its management an[d] media expertise with existin[g] skills at the station, RTV wi[ll] build its ratings and achiev[e] good profits."

Rediffusion, which has a [...] per cent interest in Thame[s] Television and 17 per cent [...] Capital Radio, is expected t[o] be shortly awarded sever[al] licences in a new pilot schem[e] for cable television.

Possible suitors for Thomson T-Line

By Peter Wainwright

Thomson T-Line Caravans of Falkirk could well have found suitable suitors after nearly nine months of searching. Mr David Thomson, chairman, and his colleagues asked for a halt to Stock Exchange dealings yesterday.

They said they were in talks "which may or may not result in an offer". In April last year Mr Thomson, whose family interests control three fifths of the shares, asked Kleinwort Benson, the merchant banker, to find a buyer for the family shares.

The shares duly rose 3p to 68p, valuing the group at £1.1m. Yesterday the suspension price was 67p. Last year's high was 80p. The shares, a difficult market, were last dealt in nearly a week ago at 45p. Before that the last business done was on December 22.

The announcement of an approach was only one of a series yesterday. J. F. Nash and Partners said that they had sold *their entire holding of 186,000* shares or 11.5 per cent. Margetts & Addenbrooke, East, Newton, the Birmingham broker, acting for a discretionary investment client, bought on February 10, 30,000 shares at around 55½p. Finally, Mr A. L. R. Morton and Mr J. A. Merritt each bought 80,000 ordinary shares, 4.94 per cent of the total.

Mr Morton and Mr Merritt, the prospective bidders, are directors of Kwik-Fit (Tyres and Exhausts) Holdings. They came into the group whe[n] Kwik-Fit bought their compan[y] Euro Exhaust Centre Holding[s] in October 1979 in a £10.46[m] deal that made the combin[ed] group the biggest independe[nt] tyres and exhaust system retailer in Europe. The pa[y]ment was of £3.5m in cash a[nd] 12m new Kwik-Fit shares. M[r] Morton is an accountant a[nd] Mr Merritt was once a pan[el] beater. Mr Morton resign[ed] from the Kwik-Fit board la[st] November.

It is thought that the tw[o] have ideas for marketing car[a]vans in new ways. The grou[p] they would be taking over [if] talks succeed had net assets [a] share of 146p at end Decemb[er] 1979. Shareholders' funds we[re] £2.7m and overdrafts £1.5[m]. Freehold properties were la[st] valued in 1979. It is thoug[ht] that Thomson has land zon[ed] for housing a few miles fro[m] Grangemouth.

Caravan business in gener[al] has slumped, and Thoms[on] along with it—net losses we[re] *£61,000 in the first half* [of] last year and it is still bad. [It] is, however, a cyclical busines[s] and companies tend to recove[r] quickly. In the next upturn there will also be fewer carava[n] makers—more than 16 wer[e] out of business last yea[r] including names likes Pembe[r]ton, Fisher Holivan, and Elit[e].

Thomson has 300 employee[s]. Around 30 were made redu[n]dant last year. But Kleinwort [is] holding out for a price ne[ar] asset value and the Merri[tt] Morton approach was only o[...]

Business appointments

New directors of Barclays International

Mr Michael Rowlinson, Mr Michael Wood, Mr Noel Beadle and Mr David Mann have been appointed international finance directors of Barclays Bank International. Mr W. R. Russell has been appointed chairman and Sir Harold Smedley deputy chairman of the London board of the Bank of New Zealand.

Dr Ronald M. Cresswell has been appointed to the board of the Wellcome Foundation as group technical director.

Mr John Eccles has been appointed a deputy chairman of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. He has been a part-time member since 1976.

The Export Credits Guarantee Department has made Mr R. T. *Kemp head of one of the department's* two project underwriting groups. Mr D. H. Twyford has become head of the departmental services group.

Mr David Whittaker has been appointed group legal director of the Racal electronics group.

Mr David S. Armitage has been appointed managing director and chief executive of Edmunds Walker & Co.

Mr Randal T. Huston and Mr Andrew C. H. Smith have been appointed to the board of Ewart New Northern.

Five new appointments to the board of Asda Stores are: Mr Michael Allison, director produce; Mr John Cope, director finance; Mr David Gransby, director development and maintenance; [Mr] Barry Mosley, director st[ore] operations, north; and Mr Ke[...] Shingler, director store operatio[ns] south.

Mr W. M. J. Grylls MP has be[en] appointed to the board of Vosp[er].

Mr Richard Gray has beco[me] managing director of Page B[...] (Norwich), a member of the H[ar]rison Printing Group. Two bo[ard] appointments announced by H[ar]rison Colour International are [Mr] Les Aarons and Mr Peter le Sa[...].

Mr Colin Pugh has b[een] appointed a director of Monum[ent] Securities.

Mr Charles Denton has bec[ome] director of programmes for A[...] Network.

Gold price fall hits mine profits

By Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

Despite Vaal Reefs's strong finish to its financial year, the December quarter results from the Anglo American group mines show the gathering impact of the falling gold price.

Among the Transvaal mines, Vaal Reefs earned R123m after tax and the state's share of profit, compared with R90.1m in the September quarter. Profits for the year were R377m (£209m) against R183m in 1979.

In common with most other mines, however, Vaal Reefs's average gold price received fell in the final three months. After making $656 an ounce in the September quarter, the last quarter fell by $6. The year's average was $632, more than twice the 1979 figure.

The two other major mines to complete their year were Elandsrand and Western Deep Levels. Accidents cut Elandsrand's profits from R11.2m in the September quarter to R2.56m. But profits for the year—only the mine's second full year of production—were R37.1m compared with R6.34m.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12½%.

Briefly

J. Hepworth & Son: British Land has sold 100,000 shares, reducing its total holding to 2.28m, or 5.3 per cent of the total equity.

International Petroleum: Trading in the company's shares is to start on the resource section of the Vancouver Stock Exchange. Main assets of IPL are two concessions off-shore Ras al Khaima, one of the United Arab Emirates.

Homfray and Co: Chairman, Mr D. E. Gillam, says in his annual statement that he can now see signs of a recovery. Expected that first half of current year will show a reducing loss, but the full benefit of the closures, reduction in overheads and the introduction of new ranges should flow through to enable Homfray to regain the volume of sales which has been lost while this modernisation and streamlining has been taking place.

United Overseas Bank, the largest local banking group in Singapore with total assets exceeding S$7,000m and 83 branches and agencies worldwide including a full-branch office in London, has established a facility for the issue of American Depositary Receipts in its shares through Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York. The issue, only the second such facility ever secured by a Singapore domiciled bank, will greatly facilitate American investment in UOB shares.

Westminster and Country Properties: Turnover for half-year to October 31, 1980, £1.39m (£700,000). Pretax profits £176,000 *(£156,000). Interim dividend,* gross, raised from 1.42p to 1.78p. No tax charge expected for full year.

Portals Holdings: Recent rights issue of £9.02m of 9¼ per cent convertible, unsecured loan stock, 1994-2000, accepted for 95 per cent. **Malaysia Rubber**: Net revenue, after tax, for nine months to December 31, 1980, £40,000 (£37,000).

Sunrie Clothes: Mr Harvey M. Ross has increased his holding to a total of 225,000 shares (9 per cent).

Cawdaw Industrial Holdings: Ferguson Industrial Holdings have acquired a further 25,000 ordinary shares and now own a total of 535,000 ordinary shares (10.52 per cent).

Crystalate (Holdings): Recent rights issue of £2.09m, 9¾ per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1999/2000 accepted as to 85.88 per cent.

Futura Holdings: Board expects pre-tax profits for 1980 to be in the region of £148,000; 1979's pre-tax profits were £161,000, before extraordinary items.

Guinness Peat Group has bought 80 per cent of H. F. Staiger, for $400,000 (about £175,000). New York-based Staiger is in the importation and distribution of natural and synthetic rubber to the North American market.

Hampton Trust: Recent rights issue accepted for 94.78 per cent. **United Biscuits (Holdings)**: Specialty Brands, a subsidiary of United Biscuits, is to acquire Aunt Millie's Sauces, a privately held United States company. Terms of the purchase were not disclosed.

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	63	—	6.7	10.6	5.7
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	43	—	1.4	3.3	17.7
192	92½	Bardon Hill	190	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
98	88	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	4.7
126	88	Frank Horsell	106	—	6.4	6.0	3.3
110	51	Frederick Parker	51	—	11.0	21.6	2.3
110	74	George Blair	74	—	3.1	4.2	—
110	59	Jackson Group	106	—	6.9	6.5	4.0
124	103	James Burrough	120	—	7.9	6.6	9.8
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	—
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
224	215	Torday Limited	216	—	15.1	7.0	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	11¼	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	72	—	15.0	20.8	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	39	—	3.0	7.7	6.0
103	81	Walter Alexander	103	+2	5.7	5.5	5.7
263	181	W. S. Yeates	262	−1	12.1	4.6	4.3

Trevian placing raises £1.2m

By Our Financial Staff

Unquoted property company Trevian Properties has raised £1.2m through a placing of shares and debenture stock with six leading institutions. The placing was carried out by over-the-counter market-maker, M. J. H. Nightingale.

Two more financing exercises are under way at Trevian. The £1.2m raised so far is to expand its commercial property development, dealing and investment activities. Trevian has properties in London and the Home Counties; East Anglia and the Midlands.

The shares and first mortgage debenture stock have been placed with the six institutions in units of 225 shares and £750 nominal of debenture stock, at a unit price of £1,200. The shares placed add up to roughly 49.6 per cent of the enlarged equity.

Trevian was bought in 1963 by Mr David Dutton, who has bought, managed and developed property primarily for Associated Restaurants and a subsidiary of Associated Newspapers, Crowvale Properties. Now Mr Ronald Shields, managing director of Associated Newspapers, is to join Trevian's board as a non-executive director, as is Mr B. J. P. Cotton, a partner of accountancy firm Stoy Hayward.

UK TRADE

The following are the January trade figures seasonally adjusted and corrected on a balance of payments basis, for known recording errors.

		£m visible balance	Exports fob	Imports fob
1979		−3,497	40,687	44,184
1980		+1,174	47,354	46,180
1980	Q1	−388	11,871	12,259
	Q2	−320	11,915	12,235
	Q3	+616	11,700	11,084
	Q4	+1,266	11,868	10,602
1980	Aug	−29	3,781	3,810
	Sept	+344	3,871	3,527
	Oct	+476	3,910	3,434
	Nov	+423	3,953	3,530
	Dec	+367	4,005	3,638
1981	Jan	+757	4,006	3,249

The following are the unit volume index numbers for visible trade, seasonally adjusted and the terms of trade index, non-seasonally adjusted, issued yesterday by the Department of Trade.

		Volume export (1975=100)	Volume import	Terms of trade
1979		125.6	125.6	106.1
1980		127.8	119.1	103.9
1979	Q1	108.1	114.5	107.8
	Q2	136.3	130.2	106.6
	Q3	128.1	123.0	106.9
	Q4	130.1	128.9	103.5
1980	Q1	131.4	124.5	101.0
	Q2	128.3	125.8	103.4
	Q3	124.7	115.6	105.5
	Q4	126.5	110.4	105.8
1980	Aug	120.8	117.9	105.0
	Sept	123.9	110.6	105.3
	Oct	124.8	107.1	105.4
	Nov	127.9	111.6	106.0
	Dec	127.1	112.6	105.5
1981	Jan	123.7	100.6	106.4

RETAIL SALES

The following are the figures for the volume of retail sales released by the Department of Trade:

	Sales by volume (seasonally adjusted) (1976=100)	Sales by value (not adjusted) % change on year earlier
1979		
1st Qtr	105.8	+14
2nd Qtr	113.0	+20
3rd Qtr	106.6	+15
4th Qtr	109.1	+18
1980		
1st Qtr	110.2	+20
2nd Qtr	108.2	+13
3rd Qtr	108.9	+14
1920		
Aug	109.8	+13
Sept	108.5	+13
Otc	109.7	+12
Nov	109.2	+11
Dete	108.4	+9
1981		
Jan	111½(prov)	+9(prov)

Honda deal

United Car and Diesel Distributors, Daimler-Benz's 27 per cent owned South African affiliate, has signed an agreement with Honda to produce Honda cars in South Africa.

Manchester ship plan for docklands

After last year's losses, Mr D. M. Redford, chairman of Manchester Ship Canal, tells shareholders in his annual statement that he cannot hold out any prospects of a return to profits for the current year.

However, the directors plan to do everything possible to revitalize the company's docklands and to open them up for new enterprises involving new job opportunities.

Mr Redford said their clear aim must be to restore the company's fortunes by redeveloping its assets, though progress will be tempered and controlled by the national economy, the recovery of its employment outlook and the vicissitudes of world trade.

MP Kent pays £2.4m for London property

MP Kent has exchanged contracts with a wholly owned subsidiary of Reed International to purchase for £2.4m a vacant property at 6-10 Norwich Street, near Holborn Circus, London.

The site has a planning approval for a new office block of some 39,750 sq ft.

Construction is expected to begin later this year and be completed within 18 months.

Interim profits rise at Deborah Services

Deborah Services, sales for the half year to September 30 were £14m compared with £9.6m. Profit before tax totalled £760,000 against £746,000 and the interim was 1.21p.

The chairman said that with the benefit of long-term contracts and continued involvement in North Sea oil the outlook for the rest of the financial year was satisfactory. He was confident that the company would maintain and improve its profits despite the world recession. It has now completed and handed over the first commercial fluidised bed boiler to burn acid tars in the UK.

New company formed by Countryside

Countryside Properties has formed a new company—Countryside Investments—which will be jointly owned by Countryside and Barlow Holdings (with 40 per cent each) and Majedie Investments, with 20 per cent.

This new property investment firm is to buy from the developers, Countryside Properties, the main shopping element of the Neighbourhood Centre at North Melbourne, Chelmsford, for £1.82m.

This shopping scheme is expected to be completed in April and comprises 38,000 sq ft under one roof, with parking for 220 cars.

First-half warning from Deanson

The indications are that the first half-year's profits at Deanson (Holdings) will be lower than the similar period last year, Mr J. Wilcox, the chairman, told the annual meeting.

The shortage of orders has continued in all divisions since the last year-end. Deanson are printers and packagers.

Australian interest for Low & Bonar

The Low and Bonar Group has bought almost 15 per cent of Electrical Equipment of Sydney, a publicly-quoted company, in a $A2.02m (£1m) deal. Low's acquisition of 14.125 per cent of Electrical Equipment's capital creates a valuable trade and technological link.

Caparo Group

The next big step for the reticent Mr Paul

Last week Hanson Trust bowed out of the battle for control of the West Midlands holding company Central Manufacturing & Trading, selling its stake in CMT to rival bidder Caparo—the little-known but ubiquitous private investment company of Mr Swraj Paul.

For Hanson, the decision to withdraw must have been a bitter one. The successful conglomerate is something of a veteran of takeovers, had spent considerable time and effort as a minority shareholder on seeing CMT steered back towards recovery and has had to swallow a £1m loss on its 13.3 per cent stake in CMT.

For Mr Paul, on the other hand, the deal is eminently satisfactory. With nearly 35 per cent of CMT, Caparo must now have an excellent chance of gaining control. "For us, it's a very big step", Mr Paul says.

His Caparo Group already has an extraordinary assortment of investments in quite unrelated industries. In the quoted sector the Caparo portfolio includes 5 per cent stakes in ceramic and metal products group AI Industrial Products and in shipping group Walter Runciman, a near 30 per cent holding in Barrow Hepburn, 18 per cent in Assam Frontier Tea and 14 per cent in toymaker Berwick Timpo.

Property is another important constituent. Investments include a long lease on Ambika House—the headquarters of the British Council in Portland Place—joint ownership of the four star Osborne Hotel in Torquay and a £5m to £6m development scheme on the south coast near Bournemouth.

Mr Paul is clearly a man of means but he is reticent about the finances of Caparo. He points out, with characteristic courtesy, that one of the privileges of a private company is not having to publicize such matters. However, he broadly agrees with reports that Caparo has a net worth of only about £3m and about £10m of long-term debt. In fact, Caparo has been built up mainly with borrowed *money and if the CMT acquisition goes through,* the £14.5m for this will be financed with further bank loans.

Mr Paul became a British citizen in 1976, ten years after he first arrived in England, but his ability to command such large resources goes back to his roots and connexions in India, where he was, he says, "born into business".







Mr Swraj Paul, chairman of Caparo Group.

He grew up above his father's steel factory and after training as an engineer in the United States he joined the family business, which he later inherited with his three brothers.

Called the Apeejay Surrendra group, it [has] interests ranging from steel and engineering, pharmaceuticals, hotels and shipping. It empl[oys] 10,000 to 12,000 and is negotiating to buy 12 sh[ips].

"Technically speaking, I have no interest [in] Apeejay Surrendra," Mr Paul says, noting that [he] is excluded by his British nationality. "But we [are] a very close family."

Apart from being able to call on these formid[able] industrial ties as evidence of his creditworthin[ess], Mr Paul and his family are evidently close to [the] Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Ghandi, wh[ich] probably explains some fanciful City rumours t[hat] Mr Paul was backed by the Indian government. [Mr] Paul coordinated Mrs Gandhi's visit to this cou[ntry] in 1978.

Mr Paul's career in England began with a sm[all] steel trading business. Then came the acquisition [of] North Gas Tubes, a small company in Hunting[don] making spiral welded tubes. Mr Paul expanded [with] a £5m steel tube factory at Tredegar in South W[ales] largely financed by £3m of loans from the Dep[art]ment of Industry and European Coal and S[teel] Community.

Caparo first appeared on the City scene in 1[...] when it bid for Empire Plantations and Investme[nts] and Singlo Holdings, two tea plantation compa[nies] linked by directors and cross-shareholdings.

Caparo lost the first round in a battle n[...] remarkable for the abuse shelled out by the direct[ors] of Empire and Singlo. But two years later Cap[aro] won Empire and still has a 26 per cent stake [in] Singlo—now a food and drink manufacturer [and] distributor, having sold its tea plantations to Cap[...].

With Empire came a stake in L.K. Indust[rial] Investments, where Caparo now has 70 per cent [and] is seeking to develop the company. But the only [...] profit earner in the group is North Gas Tubes, wh[ich] still made a profit in 1980 despite the steel slu[mp]. The bid for CMT is an attempt to add another pr[ofit] earner to a group that is primarily a diverse inv[est]ment company, but which will look "much m[ore] homogeneous in two years' time," Mr Paul says.

Of course it remains to be seen whether Cap[aro] or Hanson has the last laugh over CMT, which [has] a chequered past. But Mr Paul is cheerfully optimi[stic] that its worst problems are over.

Peter Wilson-Sm[ith]

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

...PER closed barely steady. After-...—Cash wire bars, £775-776 a ...ic ton: three months, £798.50-... Sales, 2,625. Cash cathodes, ...-774: three months, £784-785.00. ... nil tons. Morning.—Cash wire £779.50-780: three months, ...-803.50. Settlement, £780.00. ... 6,725 tons. Cash cathodes, £779.00: three months, £788-...50. Settlement, £774.00. Sales, ... tons.

...—Standard tin closed easier. After-...—Standard, cash, £5,910-5,915 ...; three months, £6,070-6,080. ... 220 tonnes. High grade, cash, ...10-5,915: three months, £6,070-... Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—...ard, cash, £5,965-5,970: three ...hs, £6,125-6,130. Settlement, ...70. Sales, 355 tonnes. High grade, £5,965-5,970, three months, ...5-6,130. Settlement, £5,970. ... nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-... fell by 34 cents to 30.46 ...t per kilo.

... was barely steady, but quiet. ...noon.—Cash, £294.50-295 per ...: three months, £304.50-304.75. ... 1,175 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, ...50-297.75: three months, ...50-308. Settlement, £297.75. ... 2,825 tonnes.

... was steady, but quiet. After-...—Cash, £312.50-314 per tonne: ... months, £324-325.00. Sales, ... tonnes. Morning.—Cash, ...50-314: three months, £325-...0. Settlement, £314.00. Sales, ... tonnes.

...INUM was at £206.10 ($466.00) ...y ounce.

...R was very steady. — Bullion ... (fixing levels).—Spot, 565.25p ...roy ounce (United States cents ...lent, 1272.90): three months, ...0p (1329.80c): six months, ...0p (1343.40c): one year, ...0p (1499.80c). London Metal ...nge. — Afternoon. — Cash, 572. ... three months, 589-590p. Sales, ...s of 10,000 troy ounces each. ...ng. — Cash, 564-565.0p: three ...s, 581-581.5p. Settlement, ...p. Sales, 43 lots.

...INIUM was barely steady. — ...noon. — Cash, £634-636.00 per ... three months, £649.50-650. ... 3,350 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, ...541.50: three months, £656.50-... Settlement, £641.50. Sales, 9,025 ...

...EL was steady. — Afternoon. — £2,765-2,775 per tonne: three ...s, £2,750-2,735. Sales, 288 ... Morning.—Cash, £2,775-2,780: ... months, £2,740-2,745. Settle-... £2,780. Sales, 270 tonnes.

...ER was quietly easier (pence, ...lo): March, 56.00-57.50: April, ...-58.30: April-June, 58.60-59.00: ...Sept, 62.00-62.10: Oct-Dec, ...-65.20: Jan-March, 68.00-... April-June, 71.00-71.10: July-... 73.80-74.10: Oct-Dec, 76.80-... Sales, one lot at five tonnes ... 116 lots at 15 tonnes each.

...ER PHYSICALS closed slightly ...—Spot: 56.00-57.00. Cif's: ... 61.00-62.00: April, 61.50-...

...EE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): ... 1,021-22: May, 1,034-35: ... 1,056-58: Sept, 1,043-45: Nov, ...-46: Jan, 1,045-55: March, ...-80. Sales, 1,879 lots, including ... options.

...EE (arabica officials at 16.45): ... 142.00-44.00: April, 143.00-...: June, 143.00-46.00: Aug, ...0-46.00: Oct, 144.00-46.00: Dec, ...0-45.00: Feb, 140.00-45.00.

...OA was quiet and steady (£ per ...c ton).—March, 836-38: May, ...; July, 893-94: Sept, 916-17: ... 945-46: March, 971-73: May, ...2. Sales, 946 lots.

...AR.—The London daily price of ...s" was £8.00 lower at £260: ..."whites" prices was £8.00 lower ...83. Futures (£ per tonne): March, ...0-55.00: May, 257.50-58.00: ... 256.00-56.25: Oct, 251.75-52.00: ... 235.00-36.00: March, 237.00-...; May, 236.00-37.50.

...BEAN MEAL was quiet and ...ly easier yesterday (£ per tonne): ..., unquoted: April, 124.60-124.70: ... 127.70-127.80: Aug, 128.80-...0: Oct, 129.00-131.00: Dec, ...0-134.00: Feb, 139.00-136.00. ... 52 lots.

WOOL.— NZ Crossbreds, No 2 contract, cents per kilo (quiet).—March, 349-354: May, 352-354: Aug, 363-364: Oct, 372-374: Dec, 378-378: Jan, 377-379: March, 375-382: May, 381-385: Aug, 383-388. Sales: 11 lots.

GRAIN. (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring, unquoted; US dark northern spring, No. 2, 14 per cent: March, £112.75 transhipment east coast seller; US hard winter, 13½ per cent: March, £105.00; April, £106.75 trans-shipment east coast sellers. EEC, unquoted. English feed, fob: Feb, £109.60 paid Boston.

MAIZE.—US—French and S. African white, unquoted. S African yellow: March-April, £86.00 seller.

BARLEY.—English feed, fob: Feb: £99.75; March, £101.00; April, £102.50; April-June, £103.00, east coast sellers. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.— BARLEY was steady.—March, £95.30; May, £98.60; Sept, £94.00; Nov, £97.60; Jan, £101.35. Sales: 154 lots. WHEAT was steady.—March, £107.65; May, £111.55; July, £116.40; Sept, £98.80; Nov, £102.50; Jan, £106.45. Sales: 238 lots. Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Milling Wheat	Other Feed Wheat	Feed Barley
Eastern	—	£104.30	£94.00
E Midlands	—	—	£94.60
N. East	—	£106.00	£95.00
Scotland	—	£107.80	£94.20

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 16.—GB: Cattle, 86.30p per kglw (+1.31). UK: Sheep, 162.25p per kgestdcw (+0.84). GB: Pigs, 67.81p per kglw (+0.23). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 3.1 per cent, average price, 86.57p (+1.55). Sheep numbers down 12.1 per cent, average price, 165.12p (+3.86). Pig numbers up 6.3 per cent, average price, 67.81p (+0.23). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 30.4 per cent, average price, 85.14p (+0.46). Sheep numbers up 5.6 per cent, average price, 153.97p (−7.64). Pig numbers down 3.5 per cent, average price, 68.05p (+0.77).

POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £57.60; Nov, £55.80; Feb, £63.50. Sales: 55 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

TEA.—Assam CTC's continued to meet keen competition on Monday and prices were frequently 2p to 4p per kilo dearer, even against the improved level recorded at last week's close, the official report said. Bangladesh teas, on the other hand, received less support and shed 2p to 4p.

East African CTC's opened irregular, but closed fully firm, with brighter types often dearer, particularly dust. Malawi and Mozambique teas came in for good demand at steady rates.

There was good demand for Ceylons and South Indians at generally firm rates. Ceylon dust grades were a strong feature.—Reuter.

Gold production rises in S Africa

Johannesburg, Feb 16.—South African gold production rose to 53,733 kilos, or 1.3m ounces, in January from 52,716 kilos, or 1.69m ounces, in December, but was still below the 56,239 kilos, or 1.81m ounces, produced in January last year, Chamber of Mines' figures show.—Reuter.

LME metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (all in tonnes, except silver, which is in troy ounces). Copper fell 1,475 to 120,325; Tin rose 195 to 6,460; Lead fell 3,975 to 66,825; Zinc fell 375 to 92,175; Aluminium fell 2,500 to 47,925; Nickel rose 12 to 3,954; Silver rose 20,000 to 26.57m.

Discount market

Heavy tax payments drained money out of the system yesterday and contributed to conditions that necessitated the provision of large-scale help by the authorities. Rates for fresh secured money held the area of 14-13¾ per cent throughout, mostly the upper end of that range. There was a very large excess of Revenue receipts over Exchequer disbursements—Tobacco Tax was said to figure substantially.

Foreign exchange report

The dollar made fresh gains at the expense of all major currencies, including sterling, which lost 285 points at $2.2570 yesterday, compared with $2.2855 on Friday. The pound's trade-weighted index, however, continued to reflect the stability of sterling against other key currencies, finishing at 103.5, after 103.8 on Friday and 103.0 at the opening. With Euro-deposit rates sharply higher, the dollar was in renewed demand on expectations of another rise soon in United States interest rates. Business was rather restricted, however, by the holiday in the United States (Washington's birthday).

Sterling gained some encouragement during the afternoon by better-than-expected January trade figures, revealing a current account surplus of £957m.

Dealers, however, reported no great weight of selling. The D-mark came under fresh pressure, but despite no support by the Bundesbank, the German currency was able to end off the bottom, but was still testing 1977 low levels.

The closing rate was 2.2472

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) February 16	Market rates (close) February 16	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.2460-2720	$2.2560-2580	0.70-0.80c disc	2.95-3.05c disc
Montreal	$2.7050-7250	$2.7200-7220	0.77-0.87c disc	2.85-3.00c disc
Amsterdam	5.45-62fl	5.50½-51½fl	2⅛-1⅛c prem	4⅛-3⅛c prem
Brussels	80.95-81.70f	81.55-65f	13-3c prem	2c prem-8c disc
Copenhagen	15.44-56k	15.54-56k	190-60ore prem	260-450ore prem
Dublin	1.3540-3650p	1.3630-3640p	05-15p disc	25-45p disc
Frankfurt	5.03½-08½m	5.06½-07½m	2-1pf prem	3⅛-2⅛pf prem
Lisbon	129.75-131.25e	130.35-131.05e	68c prem-12c disc	25c prem-140c disc
Madrid	199.90-200.70p	200.25-35p	23-70c disc	248-325c disc
Milan	2378-2398lr	2395½-97½lr	6-8lr disc	30½-32½lr disc
Oslo	12.46-51k	12.49½-50½k	180-80ore prem	0-170ore disc
Paris	11.62-73f	11.71½-72½f	3⅛-2⅛c prem	6⅛-5⅛c prem
Stockholm	10.60-68k	10.66½-67½k	215-275ore disc	875-970ore disc
Tokyo	465-72y	467½-68½y	200-145y prem	520-450y prem
Vienna	35.55-95sch	35.87-92sch	12-10gro prem	31-25gro prem
Zurich	4.60-65f	4.61¼-62¼f	2⅞-1⅞c prem	6¼-5¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was down 0.3 to 103.5.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9460-1.9610
Bahrein	0.8475-0.8505
Finland	9.3255-9.3655
Greece	117.60-119.60
Hongkong	12.0485-12.0855
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6175-0.6205
Malaysia	5.1350-5.1650
Mexico	52.05-53.55
New Zealand	2.4210-2.4410
Saudi Arabia	7.5125-7.5525
Singapore	4.7230-4.7530
South Africa	1.7515-1.7665

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	103.5	n.a.
US dollar	102.2	n.a.
Canadian dollar	85.3	n.a.
Schilling	111.7	n.a.
Belgian franc	106.5	n.a.
Danish kroner	86.2	n.a.
Deutsche mark	116.1	n.a.
Swiss franc	130.1	n.a.
Guilder	110.7	n.a.
French franc	85.3	n.a.
Lira	60.7	n.a.
Yen	149.2	n.a.

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.6545-1.6565
+ Canada	1.2052-1.2055
Netherlands	2.4415-2.4435
Belgium	36.14-36.17
Denmark	6.8830-6.8880
West Germany	2.2465-2.2480
Portugal	57.95-58.10
Spain	88.82-88.87
Italy	1060-1062
Norway	5.5350-5.5400
France	5.1940-5.1990
Sweden	4.7250-4.7000
Japan	207.35-207.65
Austria	15.89-15.91
Switzerland	2.0440-2.0470

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
+ Canada $1 : US $0.8285-0.8298

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.8814	+5.26	+0.96	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.98251	+3.35	−0.95	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.60425	+4.92	+0.62	1.125
French franc	5.84700	6.01767	+2.92	−1.38	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.82814	+3.06	−1.22	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.700252	+4.80	+0.50	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1228.17	+6.08	+1.78	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 16¾-17¼; seven days, 17½-17⅞; one month, 17¹⁵⁄₁₆-18⁵⁄₁₆; three months, 18⅛-18⅝; six months, 18⅝-18⅞.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $487 (an ounce); pm, $490.25 close, $490.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $504-507 (£222.75-224.75).
Sovereigns (new): $124-128 (£54.75-55.75).

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%

(Last changed 24/11/80)

Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%

Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 14 Low 13½

Week Fixed: 14-13⅞

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12⅞	2 months	12⁷⁄₁₆
3 months	12⅝	3 months	12⁵⁄₁₆

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) / Trades (Dis%)

2 months	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-12²⁷⁄₃₂	3 months	13⅛
3 months	12¹³⁄₃₂-12¹¹⁄₃₂	4 months	12⅞
4 months	12⅝-12½	6 months	12½
6 months	11¹³⁄₁₆-11¹¹⁄₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15½-15¼	7 months	13⅛-12⅞
2 months	14⅝-14½	8 months	13⅛-12⅞
3 months	13⅝-13½	9 months	13⅛-12⅞
4 months	13½-13¼	10 months	13⅛-12⅞
5 months	13¼-13	11 months	13⅛-12⅞
6 months	13⅛-12⅞	12 months	13-12⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14⅛-14	6 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	13⅝-13⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	12⅝-12½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14-14¼	3 months	13¼
7 days	14-14¼	6 months	12⅝
1 month	14⅛	1 year	12¹¹⁄₁₆

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 14¼-14 Close 14¼-14

1 week	14¼-14⅛	6 months	12⅞-12¾
1 month	14¼-14⅛	9 months	12¾-12⅝
3 months	13⅝-13½	12 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 13⅞ 6 months 13⅛

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Gold futures in 100oz sterling lots

By Michael Prest

As the gold price obstinately resisted an early recovery, falling $6.50 yesterday to $486.50 an ounce in London, the committee of the London Gold Futures Market announced officially that its new contract would be traded in 100-ounce lots denominated in sterling.

At the same time, the European Options Exchange, based in Amsterdam, said that its own market would open on April 2, so stealing a lead over American markets anxious to launch gold options contracts.

The London Gold Futures Market is a company formed by the Metal Market & Exchange and the London Gold Market. The former specializes in base metals, and the latter is the bullion market of which the five top bullion dealers are members.

These two markets have not always seen eye-to eye over the futures market, although a formation committee member said yesterday that all differences had been settled. But he thought that the tentative starting date of April or May appeared optimistic.

The terms of the contract are: 100-ounce lots, the same as Comex in New York, delivered in London in sterling either as 100-ounce bars or three one-kilogramme bars of 995 parts fine. The trading period will be the current month and the next six. Trading will be at the London Metal Exchange.

Membership will be open to present ring dealing members of the LME and members of the London Gold Market. Each group of companies will be allowed only one seat. Other details remain to be settled, among them the controversial clearing mechanism.

Limiting trade to only six months ahead was agreed because the committee felt that longer-term contracts were seldom traded.

Dealings on the European Options Exchange will be priced in dollars, while the minimum contract will be 10 ounces. It will be the world's first gold futures options market, although applications have been made by American exchanges to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission for permission to start similar contracts.

Traders on the Amsterdam exchange will be able to buy options for a maximum of three, six or nine months.

Wall Street was closed yesterday for Washington's birthday.

Daimler-Benz improves despite difficult conditions

Group sales of Daimler-Benz, the West German vehicle manufacturer, rose to DM30,700m (£6,140m) in 1980 from DM27,400m the year before, the company said yesterday. Foreign sales rose by 17 per cent to DM16,900m.

The company said the improvement in sales and a growth in interest earnings had helped to improve profits but it gave no details.

In December the company said it expected satisfactory 1980 profits, after net world group profits of DM637.8m in 1979.

In an interim report to shareholders, Daimler said it was able to raise sales and production levels last year, despite generally difficult conditions.

The group said that sales to the Middle East and North Africa rose considerably last year. It noted also that it was the only West German car producer in 1980 to raise its domestic market share, which edged up to over 10 per cent from 9 per cent in 1979.

However, after an 8 per cent drop in overall care sales in West Germany last year, it is unlikely the trend will continue in 1981 owing to poor expectations for the economy and foreseeable additional burdens on the car sector during the year, Daimler said.

International

Pioneer expects upturn

Pioneer Electronic Corporation of Japan says it expects to report increased consolidated net income and sales for the business year to next September 30.

The group refused to give any definite figure because of uncertainties, including foreign exchange rate movements. Last year group net profits were $90.6m (£40.3m) on sales of $1,300m.

"Although it anticipates difficult circumstances, such as sluggish economic situations in Japan and abroad and the continued yen appreciation, Pioneer should be able to improve business results because it plans to introduce a number of new audio products", the company said.

20 pc profits fall forecast at Toyota

Toyota Motor Co says it expects after-tax profits of 114,000m yen (about £235m) for the business year ending June 30, a fall of more than 20 per cent from last year's record 143,000m yen.

Sales, however, are expected to rise slightly to a record 3,350bn yen from 3,300bn a year earlier.

Toyota said worldwide sales competition would become even fiercer during the year.

It expects total sales in calendar 1981 to total 3.3m vehicles composed of 1.7m for export and 1.6m in domestic sales, compared with 1.79m and 1.49m respectively in 1980.

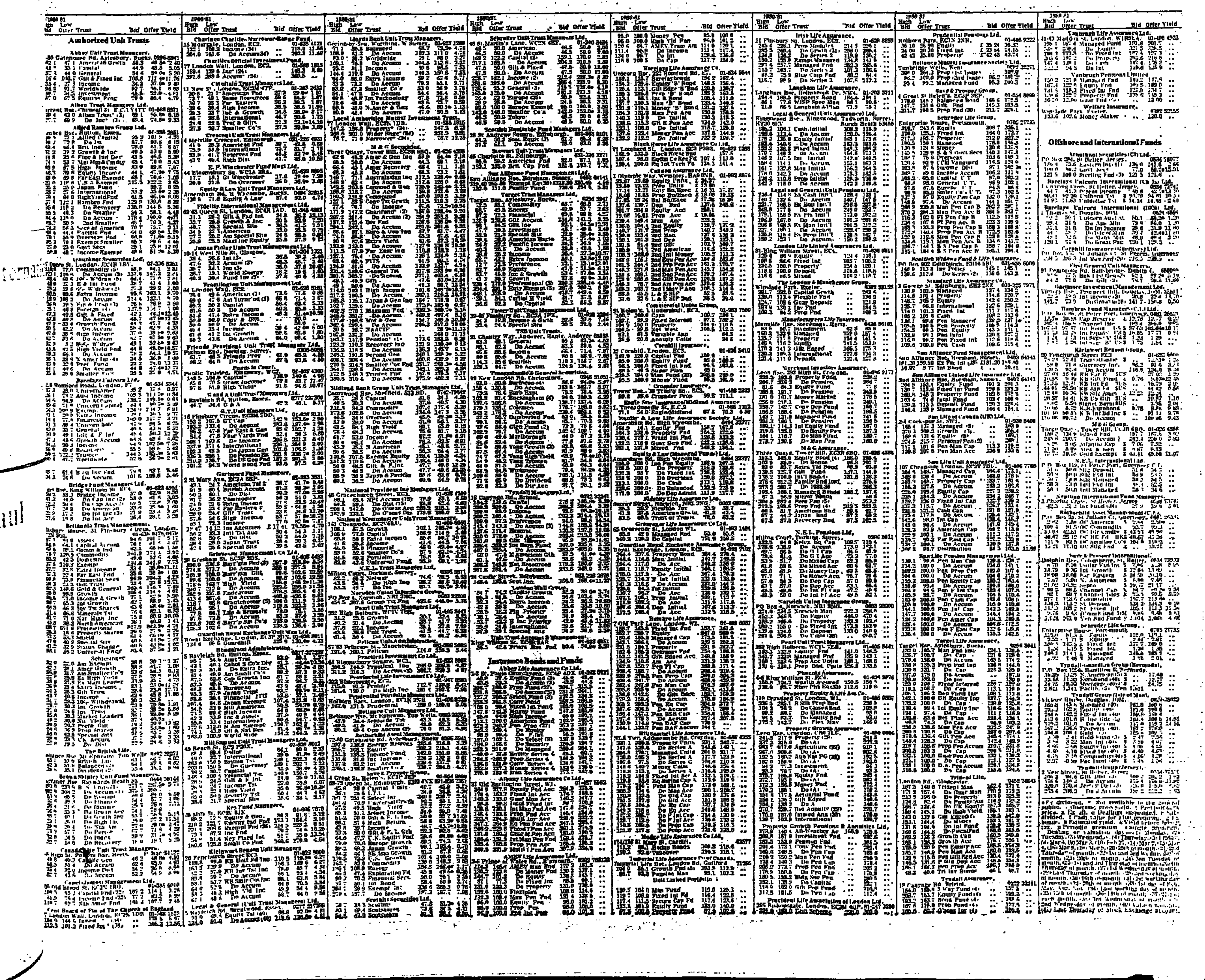
Toyota added that production of kits should total 100,000 this year, against 90,000 last year.

The group earlier reported a 12.1 per cent fall in after-tax profits for the first half to December 31, to 57,200m yen from 65,000m on sales of 1,660bn yen, up from 1,550bn in the first half a year ago.

Profits before tax and special items fell by 21.1 per cent to 102,900m yen from 130,400m the previous year, while operating profit was 47.4 per cent lower at 56,700m yen.

Its interim dividend was unchanged at seven yen.

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01-242 9462

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

Imperial College of Science and Technology
LECTURESHIP IN PROCESS CONTROL
Vacancy for a lecturer who will have responsibility for courses in process control for petroleum engineers and minerals process engineers. Other teaching duties may include engineering thermodynamics and aspects of fluid mechanics. Acquaintance with petroleum refining or oil field process equipment would be an advantage.
The lecturer will have tutorial and supervisory responsibilities in the petroleum engineering section of the department of mineral resources engineering and will be expected to contribute to the research programme or to develop a research programme in this area. Salary will be in the range £5,505 to £11,575 (under review) plus London allowance £967 per annum.
Further particulars and application forms are available on request from: Professor C. G. Wall, Department of Mineral Resources Engineering, Imperial College, London, SW7 2BP. *Telephone 01-589 5111, ext.* 1531.

University of Bradford
LECTURESHIP IN ECONOMICS
Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Economics. Commencing salary within the range of £5,505 to £7,353 p.a. (under review). Superannuable. Further particulars/application forms (to be returned as soon as possible) obtainable from the Registrar, Ref.: E/L/13/T, University of Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD7 1DP.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

BLACK MOUNTAINS WALES.—Manager(ess) for gift/lunch/tea shop. Must be an experienced cook. Accommodation provided. Details from Henbant, Crickhowell, Powys, Wales.

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PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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Tel. 01-493 9103 (9-12 am)

COMMERCE TUTOR
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Tel.: 01-493 9103 (9-12 a.m.)

AU PAIR BUREAU Piccadilly Ltd. World's largest au pair agency offers best jobs London or abroad at 87 Regent St., W.1. 930 4757.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 005030 of 1980
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER of ROYCO GROUP LIMITED and IN THE MATTER of THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION was on the 22nd day of January 1981 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for (a) the SANCTIONING of a SCHEME of ARRANGEMENT and (b) the confirmation of the reduction of the Capital of the above-named Company from £2,000,000 to £1,750,246.25 by cancelling all the issued Ordinary shares of the said Company (other than those beneficially owned by Bonnerpark Limited). The amount by which the issued Capital of the said Company is proposed to be reduced is to be applied in paying for shares of the said Company to a like *amount in accordance with the said* Scheme of Arrangement.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before The Honourable Mr Justice Nourse at The Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, on Monday the 23rd day of February 1981.

Any Creditor of Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the under-mentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

DATED this 14th day of February, 1981.

Titmuss, Sainer & Webb
2 Serjeants' Inn
London EC4Y 1LT
Solicitors for the said Company

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

AU PAIR ITALY
Young lady aged approx. 30 required to look after 2 children (6 & 7) from Easter to end summer. Based Milan but extended periods spent in mountains and at seaside. Some Italian helpful. Details to Box No. 2704 F The Times.

EDUCATIONAL

THE TIMES is running a full page feature on Educational/Business courses on Feb 25. Call Stella Scrivener for details. 01-278 9351.
CORDON BLEU OPPORTUNITY to take Advanced Section of Cordon Bleu Diploma course at Tante Marie School of Cookery. May to July.—Telephone Woking 4050.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Keble College, Oxford
E.P.A. JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
The College proposes to appoint a suitably-qualified candidate (normally in the age range 24-30) to an E.P.A. Junior Research Fellowship in some branch of the Medical, Biological and/or Chemical Sciences for three years from 1 October 1981. The stipend of a Fellow in receipt of no other emoluments will be £4,486 (at current rates). This will be appropriately adjusted in other cases, but in no case will the total stipend fall below this figure. Further particulars, including details of accommodation and allowances may be obtained from the Warden, Keble College, Oxford, OX1 3PG, to whom applications should be submitted not later than 21 March 1981.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

INDUSTRIAL UNITS.—To let from 6000 sq ft upwards. Location—Junction 9, M5 Motorway. Tewkesbury, Glos. Early occupation. Contact, P. Brownett, Modern Building Services, Dixon Road, Bristol. Tel.: 0272 770411.

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HIGHLY INTELLIGENT, able woman, over 60, experienced writing, broadcasting, translating, fluent French and Spanish, wants part-time work. Suggestions, please.—Box 2625 F, The Times.
U.S.A. Fully experienced sec. seeks work in America (0464) 319971.
SPRAY PAINTER requires work in Saudi Arabia.—Box 2836 F, The Times.
BACHELOR 34 requires temporary job April to August. Excellent Cook, speaks French, U.K. or abroad. Box 1500 E, The Times.

FLAT SHARING

BATTERSEA PARK.—Luxury flat. New dec. and furn: c.h. own room. Own bathroom, share kitchen. £30 p.w. inc. 408 0444 or 622 6319 eves.
W.1.—Maisonette, girl 25-35, own bedroom, share sitting etc. with 1 other. £30 p.w. paid quarterly. 01-486 3465.
TWICKENHAM.—2nd prof. person share luxury house. Own room. £100 pcm. excl. 892 3986.
KENSINGTON. Girl to share room in flat, £15 p.w., exclusive. 370 3935 (eves).
CHELSEA MAISONETTE. Female 25+. O/R. £35 p.w., exc. 730 2958, after 3.30 p.m.
FLATSHARE, 213 Piccadilly. 734 0318. Professional people sharing.
SHARE-A-FLAT (est. 1958) for professionals. 175 Piccadilly. 493 1265.
BARNES. Prof. m/f. Own room, share modern flat: £37 p.w. excl. 3 mths or longer. Tel: Austin, 486 8839 or 876 2321 after 1800.
HOLLAND PARK. Lady, mid 20's, share luxury flat with congenial female: £50 p.w. Call a.m. 603 8315.
SHORT LET. Own room. Quiet lady. £150 p.m., inc. 603 4920 after 7 p.m.
KNIGHTSBRIDGE. Large beautiful flat overlooking park. Girl 23+. Own sunny room. Portage, ch. £45 p.w. 01-589 8439 eves.
KENSINGTON.—Female 24+. Own large room in mixed house. £30 p.w. 937 1908. After 6.
S.W.4.—3rd person luxury maisonette, non smoker £28 p.w. 622 2450.

FLAT SHARING

CHEAM, SURREY
Two mature persons to share large, well-equipped house in select area of Cheam with owner. 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 showers, kitchen, dining room, lounge, morning room. Single and double garage, large garden and parking area. Rent negotiable.
Tel.: 642 6624 now

CHELSEA. Luxury flat, own room. £36 p.w. 351 0569 eves.
SW1. Superb large house, own room. £36 p.w. 730 9492.
NW11. Young lady, 25/30 to share exclusive maisonette. Close tube and heath. Own bedroom. £40 p.w. incl. rates. Phone. 01-848 4252 days.
FLATMATES.—313 Brompton Rd. Selective sharing. 589 5491.

RENTALS

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AMERICAN Executive seeks luxury flat or house up to £350 p.w. Usual fees required.—Phillips Kay & Lewis, 839 2245.

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BEAUTIFUL, ELEGANT. Spacious Flat, lovely garden, cheap to right tenant.—788 1610 or Windsor 64842.
CHOOSE FROM our economy/luxury/deluxe apartments for short/long term. For booking & brochures ring HES 937 9886.
KENSINGTON Church Street Mews. Just off, pleasant modernized flat, fully furnished, recep., double bedroom, k. & b. 3 months + £85 p.w. Tel. 229 3310.
DRAYCOTT PLACE, S.W.3. Luxury furn. flats, 2 mins Sloane Square and Harrods: 2 beds, £125 p.w.; studio £65 p.w. Co. let.—Portmans 581 1477/589 0337 (24hr).
RUCK & RUCK, 581 1741. Quality furnished houses for long lets needed urgently and also available. Ideal tenants looking.
MAYFAIR/S.W.1. Luxury furn./unfurn. 2 or 4 bed. accom. £250 p.w. 629 9620.
FURNISHED flats and houses in Central London area available now for long or short lets.—Lenfield Ltd., 01-741 1761.
HOLLAND PK.—Self-contained flat for 1 person. £70 p.w.—727 5203.

RENTALS

EXECUTIVE HOUSING. — In Central London and suburbs £100 - £350 a week, furnished and unfurnished. All property have been viewed. 402 S... Greenacres.

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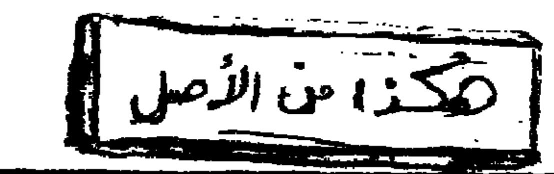
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SOUTH EDWARDS SQ., W.8 Owner's own lovely 2nd flr ... 2 beds., recep., kit. & b., ... long let. Plaza Estates 262 ...
HIGHGATE Village.—Luxury ... house, 4 bed., 2 recepts., k... chen, bathroom, 2nd w.c. ... C.H., etc., £175 p.w. Compa... let only.—889 2474.
WANTED for month of June ... Luxury house in Wimbledon. West Trend 262 6204.
MARBLE ARCH/Hyde Park. Luxury 1/2/3/4/5 bed flats ... houses. Long/short lets.—W... Trend. 262 6204.
HOLLAND PARK, W.8.—5 beds ... baths. double recep, garage, ... den, patio. £12,500 p.a.—Cro... & Lees. 493 9941.
KENSINGTON.—Mews house, ... decorated and furnished. 3 ... rooms, reception, kitchen ... bathroom. Garage available. ... p.w. 01-736 1547 after 3.00 ...
KENSINGTON, W.8.—Very ... recept., dble. bed., k. & b., ... col. T.V. gas/coal open fire. ... p.w. 0722 72650.
STANMORE HOUSE.—3 beds., ... recepts., fully fitted kit., ... 2 w.c., gge., patio, garden, C... 4 tel's, £125 p.w. Global ... perty M & S Ltd., 01-247 61... 1553.
S.W.11.—Fully furnished 2 ... room, 1 reception flat; suit ... ing: £75 p.w.—Ellis Copp ... 7709.

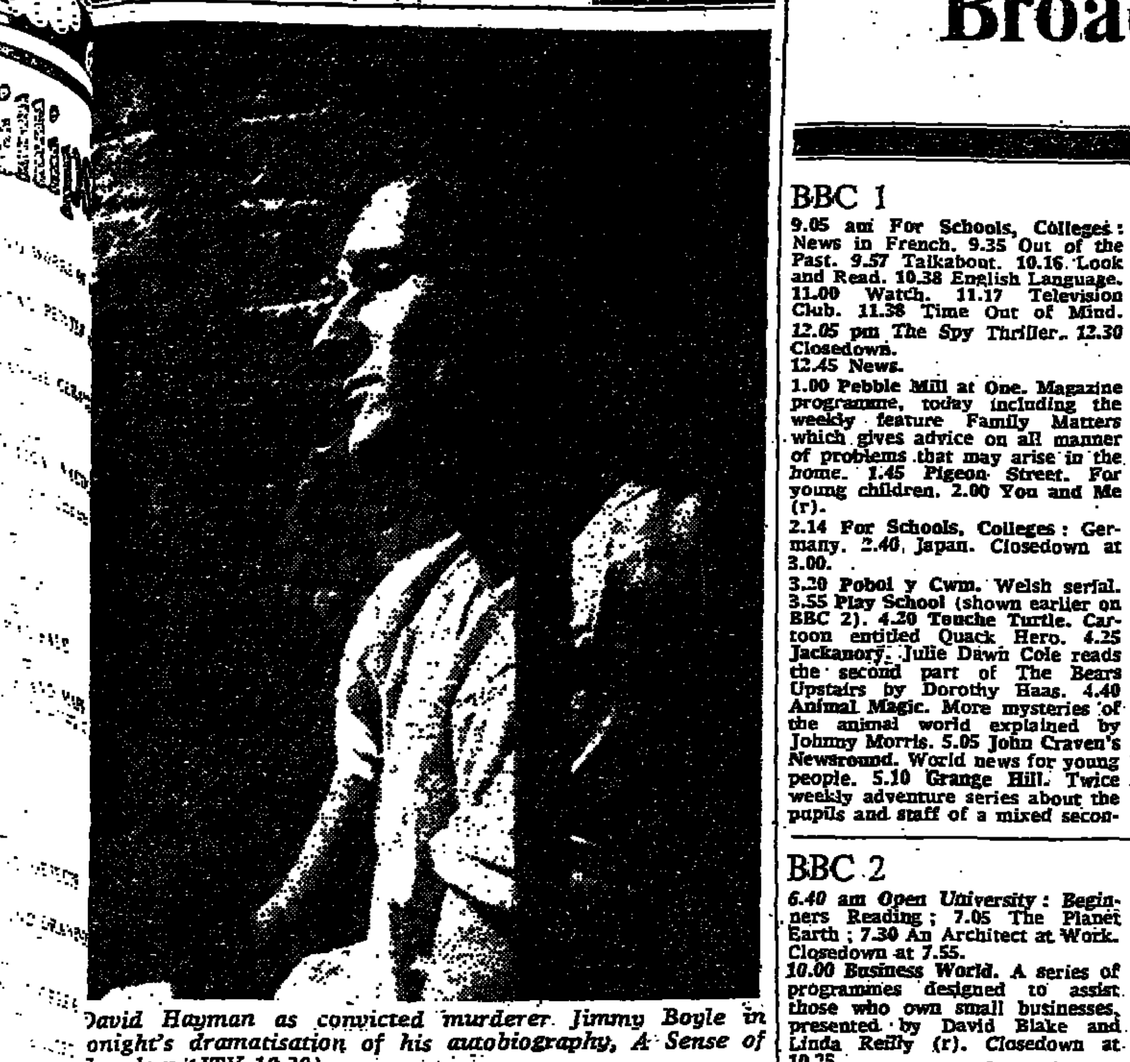
(continued on page 24)

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PERSONAL CHOICE



David Hayman as convicted murderer Jimmy Boyle in tonight's dramatisation of his autobiography, A Sense of Freedom (ITV 10.30).

● It would be a pity to miss it but if you are squeamish, dislike foul language, recoil at the sight of blood and abhor scenes of violence then don't watch A Sense of Freedom (ITV, 10.30 pm). It is a very realistic dramatisation of the autobiography of Jimmy Boyle, a small time hoodlum who has spent nearly all his life, from teenage to the present, inside prisons. His last conviction was for murder (to be imprisoned for at least fifteen years) but his psychopathic hate for authority has meant that he will be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure for a few years more. The part of Boyle is played with remarkable realism by David Hayman. The character he portrays is constantly in the wars, whether with the warders or rival gangs and if he really received the amount of punishment we are shown tonight then I don't know how he survived. What struck me was that there was never any mention of psychiatric reports which, with one so violent, he must surely have had. Other characters in the story are well cast, notably Fulton Mackay as the police inspector who eventually gets his man and Roy Hanlon as the Chief Prison Officer. John Mackenzie directed, Jeremy Isaacs produced and the wonderful atmospheric music is by Frankie Miller.

● Battleships are the subject of the first programme in a BBC series about fighting ships (Seapower, BBC 1 7.40 pm) presented by Admiral of the Fleet, Lord Hill-Norton. He traces the history of the big gun armoured warship from the first steel-hulled Dreadnought through to the giant American, Alabama, over which the Admiral takes us on a guided tour. But even this majestic vessel is now obsolete, along with the rest of the leviathans, and the reasons why are explained in detail. There is very good use of archive film showing the ships in action but unfortunately the Admiral seems a little stilted in his presentation which jars against the smoothness of the script.

● If you are young, affianced or newly married and thinking of buying a house and the only battleship you are interested in is an electronic board game then listen to Radio 4's Buying a Dream (7.50 pm). With reporter Anne Brown we learn of the hurdles met by two young couples who are trying to buy their first home. Is it all worth it? The couples themselves will let you know.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.05 am For Schools, Colleges: News in French. 9.35 Out of the Past. 9.57 Talkabout. 10.16 Look and Read. 10.38 English Language. 11.00 Watch. 11.17 Television Club. 11.38 Time Out of Mind. 12.05 pm The Spy Thriller. 12.30 Closedown.

12.45 News.

1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Magazine programme, today including the weekly feature Family Matters which gives advice on all manner of problems that may arise in the home. 1.45 Pigeon Street. For young children. 2.00 You and Me (r).

2.14 For Schools, Colleges: Germany. 2.40 Japan. Closedown at 3.00.

3.20 Pobol y Cwm. Welsh serial. 3.55 Play School (shown earlier on BBC 2). 4.20 Treacle Turtle. Cartoon entitled Quack Hero. 4.25 Jackanory: Julie Dawn Cole reads the second part of The Bears Upstairs by Dorothy Haas. 4.40 Animal Magic. More mysteries of the animal world explained by Johnny Morris. 5.05 John Craven's Newsround. World news for young people. 5.10 Grange Hill. Twice weekly adventure series about the pupils and staff of a mixed secondary school. 5.35 The Perishers. Animated version of the Daily Mirror comic strip with the voice of Leonard Rossiter.

5.40 News read by Peter Woods.

5.55 Regional news magazines. 6.20 Nationwide in which Bob Wellings visits the Selkirk Festival in the Scottish Lowlands.

6.45 Rolf Harris Cartoon Time. Four more cartoons featuring Bugs Bunny, Tom and Jerry and Roadrunner. 7.15 Taxi. Comedy series based on the drivers of the Sunshine Cab Company of New York and their passengers.

7.40 Seapower presented by Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton. Part One: Battleships (see Personal Choice). 8.40 When the Boat Comes In. The first in a brand new series starring James Bolam as Jack Ford who returns to Liverpool in 1930 after six years of mixed fortunes in the United States.

9.00 News read by Richard Baker.

9.25 Play: The Kamikaze Ground Staff Reunion Dinner. A comedy by Stewart Parker set in present-day Tokyo. Every year since the Japanese surrender the ground staff have a celebratory dinner to honour their dead colleagues. This year one of their number makes an inflammatory speech stating that the real heroes were the pilots who returned. This heresy culminates in the last kamikaze mission of all.

10.35 Omnibus: Words Fail Me... A film based on the Beryl Bainbridge novel A Quiet Life starring Elizabeth Spriggs and Peter Jeffrey (r). 11.35 News headlines.

11.35 Platform One. Bob Wellings interviews Jane Ewart Biggs on the effect the assassination of her husband had on her life.

12.05 am Weather.

Regions

[illegible]

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: Beginners Reading; 7.05 The Planet Earth; 7.30 An Architect at Work. Closedown at 7.55.

10.00 Business World. A series of programmes designed to assist those who own small businesses, presented by David Blake and Linda Reilly (r). Closedown at 10.25.

11.00 Play School. The Box in the Attic by Gladys Davies is the story this morning and the programme is presented by Lucie Skeaping and Ben Bazell. 11.25 Speak For Yourself. Advice for people who have English as their second language. This morning: Explaining your tardy arrival at work. Closedown at 11.50.

2.30 pm Roads to Conflict. Part six in the ten-part series that explains the origins of the Arab-Israeli dispute (r). 3.00 Propaganda with Facts. The first in a series of six programmes about the cinema and public opinion in the 1940s (r). 3.30 A Child's Place. Part one in a series of six on the rights of a child (r). Closedown at 3.55.

4.50 Open University: Using Public Libraries. 5.15 Interviewing Technique.

5.40 Charlie Chaplin: The Vagabond (1916). Charlie falls for a gypsy girl who turns out to be an heiress.

6.15 Maggie. The first part of a serial based on the four Maggie books written by Joan Lingard. The story concerns a teenaged girl and her family who live in a new tower block in Glasgow. It marks the television debut of Kirsty Miller in the title role and once you have mastered the broad Glaswegian accent the [illegible] enjoyable [illegible]. Part two is on Thursday.

6.40 Under Sail. A look at the Sea Cloud, a four-masted barque which was once the wedding present of heiress Marjorie Hutton. The ship is now on charter for £35,000 per week.

6.55 News with sub-titles for the hard-of-hearing.

7.00 Film: River of No Return (1954) starring Robert Mitchum and Marilyn Monroe. Set at the time of the 1875 gold rush, Monroe plays a saloon singer who falls for farming widower, Mitchum.

8.30 Russell Harty. Exclusive interviews with members of the cast plus a preview of the long-running Broadway musical The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas. Also, Rod Steiger is interviewed.

9.00 Pot Black 81. Alex Higgins and David Taylor play the eighth frame of the series. It is the first time they have played each other in a Pot Black competition. As always the action is introduced by Alan Weeks and described by Ted Lowe.

9.25 Ireland: A Television History. The penultimate programme in the series written and presented by Robert Kee. This episode covers the period from 1921 to 1974 when a Protestant general strike foiled an attempt at power sharing.

10.45 Newsnight. In-depth analysis of the main news. Programme ends at 11.35.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Simple Arithmetic; 9.47 A study of the Church of England; 10.04 The keepers of diaries, logs and journals; 10.26 Bill Grundy on the Isle of Skye; 10.48 A-level chemistry. 11.05 Elementary mathematics; 11.22 Taking care of your feet; 11.39 The problems and delights of young family life. 12.00 Jamie and the Magic Torch. Cartoon adventures of a boy and his dog (r).

12.10 Pipkins. Educational puppets. 12.30 The Sullivans. World War Two with an Australian family.

1.00 News read by Peter Sissons. 1.20 Thames News.

1.30 Crown Court. Continuing the trial of a journalist who is accused of setting fire to her lover's house (r). 2.00 After Noon Plus presented by Judith Chalmers. This afternoon the painful topic is Migraine. 2.45 The Mallens. Another torrid episode dealing with scandal and romance in nineteenth century Northumberland (r). 3.45 Unforgettable. Alan Freeman introduces pop sounds from the past with help from The Fortunes and The Foundations. 4.15 Dr Snuggles. Cartoon adventures of an old inventor. 4.20 Take a Chance. Another episode about the guests of the Rose Marie theatrical guest house. 4.45 Ace Reports. Live news and entertainment for pre-teenaged children. 5.15 Emmerdale Farm.

5.45 News. 6.00 Thames News with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter.

6.25 Help! with Viv Taylor Gee. Information about the National Association of Victim Support Schemes which offer comfort and advice to people who are victims of any kind of crime. 6.35 Crossroads. It's more like Spaghetti Junction. 7.00 Looks Familiar. Reminisce with Denis Norden and guests who recall the variety entertainers of the Thirties and Forties. 7.30 Bognor. Part three of the comedy thriller starring David Horovitch. 8.00 Robin's Nest. The first in a new comedy series about the fortunes of a bistro and its owner.

8.30 Janet and Company with Janet Brown and Tim Barrett. The talented impressionist in a new series featuring all her favourite characters.

9.00 Cover. The Machiavellian boss of the Government's spy testing department orders his two subordinates to investigate one another without either suspecting.

10.00 News.

10.30 A Sense of Freedom. A dramatisation of the autobiography of convicted murderer Jimmy Boyle (see Personal Choice).

12.15 am Close with Hugo Young.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News.
6.10 Farming.
6.30 Today.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Tuesday Call: Crime and Society.
10.00 News.
10.02 From Our Own Correspondent.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story.
11.00 News.
11.05 Play: The Spare Room, by Bob Leng.
11.35 Wildlife.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.20 Down Your Way.
1.00 News.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
2.02 The Good Soldier Svejk (5).†
4.00 Elkins on Jerusalem.
4.15 What's That In Greek?
4.45 Story: The Towers of Trebizond (10).
5.00 PM.
6.00 News.
6.30 Brain of Britain 1981.†
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Medicine Now.
7.50 Buying a Dream. (See Personal Choice.)
8.35 Voices in Harmony.†
9.05 In Touch.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 News.
10.30 Earthsearch, by James Follett (7).†
11.00 A Book at bedtime: "The Harpole report" (7).
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Weather.
VHF
9.05 am Schools: Deutsch fur die Oberstufe (5); Music Interlude; Voix de France (5); Music Interlude; News; Music Interlude; Playtime.
10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother.
11.00-12.00 Schools: Let's Move! Music Interlude; Introducing Science.
2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: History: Long Ago; Secondary Science; Stories and Rhymes.
11.00 Study on 4: Allez-France! (16).
11.30-12.10 am Open University: Biology, Brain and Behaviour; The Kizaemon Oido Teabowl.

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Rebel, Schubert, Villa-Lobos, Grieg. (8.00-8.05 News.) Berlioz, Weber, Henry Bishop, Mendelssohn.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composers: Dunstable and Power.†
9.35 Beaux Arts Trio: Haydn, Mendelssohn, Schubert.†
11.15 Harpsichord: Byrd, Martin Peerson, Giles Farnaby, Couperin, Scarlatti.†
11.50 Song Recital: Hindemith, Barber, Poulenc, Mendelssohn, Schumann.†
12.20 pm BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra: Mozart (part 1).
1.00 News.
1.05 Six Continents. 1.25 Mozart concert (part 2).†
2.00 Chamber music: Rossini.†
2.25 Test Match. West Indies v England.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Conversation with Artists. David Hockney and Edward Lucie-Smith.
8.00 Mozart live from Festival Hall (part 1).†
8.55 Talk: Aspects of St Joan.
9.15 Mozart: part 2.
9.50 Play: The Kingdom of Allemonde, by Garry O'Connor, with Anna Massey as Maggie Teyte.†
11.00 News.
11.05 Maggie Teyte (record).
11.15-11.30 Test Match (review).
VHF with mf above except: 5.55 am-6.55 Open University: Women; The 'X Club' in Belfast, 1874; Interlude.
2.25 pm Beethoven's last three Piano Sonatas.†
3.45 Concert: Vierne, Henri Mulet, Duruflé.†
4.25-4.55 Jazz: records.
11.15-11.45 Open University: 'Silence', by Harold Pinter.

Radio 2

5.00 am Bob Kilbey.† 7.30 Terry Wogan.† 10.00 Jimmy Young.† 12.00 David Hamilton.† 2.00 pm Ed Stewart.† 4.00 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.00 The Leading Ladies.† 9.00 Cricket: First Test. 9.30 The Songwriters.† 10.00 The Law Game. 10.30 Funny You Should Ask. 11.00 Brian Matthew. 2.00-5.00 am You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.30 Dave Lee Travis. 4.30 Steve Wright. 7.00 Talkabout. 8.00 Richard Skinner, 10.00-12.00 John Peel.†
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 9.00 pm The Songwriters.† 10.00 With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):

6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Europa. 8.30 Baker's Half-dozen. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 The English Miniature. 10.00 Discovery. 10.30 John Peel. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Letter from London. 11.25 Scotland This Week. 11.30 Sports International. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Musical Memories. 12.45 Sports Roundup. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 A Jolly Good Show. 2.30 Love ... The Universal Migraine. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Baker's Half-dozen. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Scotland This Week. 5.15 My Word: 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 The Pleasure's Yours. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Scotland This Week. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Classical Record Review. 11.30 Animal, Vegetable or Mineral. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 A Jolly Good Show. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Report on Religion. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Four Hands in Harmony. 2.30 Love ... The Universal Migraine. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Discovery. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF, World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This Is Your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am-12.30 After All That, This.

Westward

As Thames except: 12.27 pm Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 12.30-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 Westward Diary. 7.00-7.30 Cuckoo Waltz. 10.31 News. 10.34 Sense of Freedom. 12.10 am-12.15 Faith for Life.

Scottish

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.20 Job Spot. 6.30 What's Your Problem? 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am-12.20 Late Call.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25-9.30 News. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30 News. 10.32 Sense of Freedom. 12.15 am-12.20 Never the Same Again.

Grampian

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Simply Sewing. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 North Tonight. 7.00-7.30 Welcome to the Ceilidh. 12.15 am-12.20 News.

HTV

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Play It Again. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Daffy the Commando. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Definition. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28-10.30 News.

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.47 am-10.02 Wales and the Sea. 10.48-11.03 Believe It or Not. 12.00-12.05 pm Poli A Pill. 12.05-12.10 Cillmero. 4.15-4.45 Gwesty Gwirion. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30-11.00 Mae'r Gelyn Oddi Mewn. 11.00-12.45 am Sense of Freedom.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.31 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am Weather followed by Wade in de Water.

Anglia

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Out of Town. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 About Anglia. 7.00-7.30 Unforgettable. 12.15 am Norfolk Passion Visits America.

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Electric Theatre Show. 6.00-6.35 Lookaround. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am-12.18 News.

ATV

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Diff'rent Strokes. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.31 Emmerdale Farm. 12.10 am News. 12.15-12.45 Darts.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45-4.13 Looks Familiar. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 12.15 am-12.25 Bedtime.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Looks Familiar. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Calendar. 5.15-5.45 In Loving Memory. 6.00-6.03 Calendar. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00 Closedown. 12.30 pm Gardening Today. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 6.00-6.35 Channel Report. 7.00-7.30 Cuckoo Waltz. 10.28 News. 10.34-12.10 am Sense of Freedom.

Classified Guide

Appointments Vacant	22
Business to Business	22
Domestic Situations	22
Educational	22
Flat Sharing	22
Legal Appointments	6
Legal Notices	22
Motor Cars	22
Property	22
Rentals	22
Salerooms and Antiques	22
Secretarial and Non-Secretarial Appointments	22
Situations Wanted	22

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The deadline for all copy is one clear publishing day. i.e. Monday is the deadine for Wednesday, Friday for Monday & Tuesday. Stops and Alterations to copy is 3.0 p.m. prior to the day of publication: for Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

Queries in connection with advertisements that have appeared, other than cancellations or alterations, tel.: Classified Queries Department 01-837 1234, Extn 7180. All advertisements are subject to the conditions of acceptance of Times Newspapers Limited, copies of which are available on request.

"... FOR I DELIGHT in the law of God after the inward man: but I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind."—Romans 7: 22, 23.

BIRTHS

CURTIS.—On February 16th at the Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong to Charmaine and James—a daughter.

DUCAS.—On 13th February, in Mexico City to Sarah and William—a son.

DUNCAN.—On 2nd February, to Sarah (nee Tellow) and Neil—a son (James Alexander).

EVELEIGH.—On February 13th to Alison and Peter—a son, a brother for Melissa.

GILKES.—On 12th February, to Elizabeth and Roger—a daughter (Camilla Lucy), a sister for Oliver.

GORDON-FINLAYSON.—On February 11th, in Reading, to Marion and Ian—a third child, Joanna Fiona, born many weeks prematurely and sadly survived only 24 hours. May she rest in peace.

GRAY.—On February 14th, at Queen Charlotte's Hospital to Ann (nee Berwick) and George—a son (Oliver George Berwick) a nephew for Bertie.

HOLT.—On February 11th to Sarah (nee Jolly) and Patrick—a daughter (Jennifer Margaret Caroline), a sister for Justin and Angela.

HOWARD.—On 15th February, at Nocton Hospital, to Jane and Chris—a son, Charles Erskine.

KIVES.—On February 1st to Raymond and Barbara, a son, a brother for Sari, Stephanie and Reagan. Proud grandparents are Dr and Mrs Victor Rosenfield and and Mr and Mrs Joe Kives, and great-grandmother Mrs Rose Rosenfield.

MEREDITH.—On 16th February at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, to Heather (née Carter) and Tony—a daughter (Joanna Caroline).

MISKIN.—On 14th February, to Christine and Anthony—a son (Thomas).

MITZMAN.—On 14th February to Penelope (nee Waldman) and Richard—a daughter (Jodi Belinda), a sister for Luke.

PAINE.—On January 21st, to Ruth (nee Bawtree) and Richard—a daughter (Alexandra Louise) a sister for Nicola and Katie.

PECK.—On Feb. 13, to Annie and Alan—a son (Alexander).

RHYS-JONES.—On February 15th, 1981, in Alicante, Spain, to Flor (née Lopez) and Michael—a son (Gareth), half brother for Sian and Catrin.

SYKES-THOMPSON.—On 11th February, at St. Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Elizabeth and Nigel—a son (Oliver Peter).

WATKINS.—On 12th February, to ...

DEATHS

HART.—On Feb 11th, suddenly in London, Lynda, aged 23, beloved daughter of Mr and Mrs Ken Hart. Cremation at Islington Crematorium, Thursday February 19th. Flowers to H. H. Gray, 145 Blackstock Rd., N.4.

HAYNES.—On 16th February, 1981, suddenly at his home, Arthur Percival Haynes, aged 75 years, dear husband of Nan, father of Tony and Jonathan, grandfather of Giles, Richard, Rupert, Antonia and Rebecca. No letters or flowers. Funeral service St. Mary's Church, Kirtlington, Oxford, Friday, 20th February at 2.00 p.m., followed by private cremation.

HOGG.—On 15th February, 1981, peacefully at home in Wollaton, Nottingham, Daisy Tebbutt, aged 68 years, formerly Tutor in charge of the Nottingham Health Visitor Training Course. Funeral service at St. Leonard's Church, Wollaton, on Thursday, 19th February at 11.30 a.m., followed by cremation at Bramcote. Cut flowers or donations to the Marie Curie Foundation may be sent to Lymns, Robinhood House, Robinhood St., Nottingham, telephone 55875.

HOLT.—On 15th February, suddenly, Norman Lewis Holt, solicitor, aged 71 years. Dear husband of Kathleen. Cremation 12 noon, Friday, 20th February at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, Surrey. Family flowers only. If desired donations may be sent to The British Heart Foundation, 57 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4DH.

HULL.—On Saturday, 14th February, 1981, after a long illness at The Retreat, York, Cecil Winstanley Hull, O.B.E., T.D., Colonel W.R.A.C. (retired). Funeral service at St. Columba's Church, Warcop, Appleby-in-Westmorland, on Wednesday, 18th February at 2 p.m., followed by interment in Warcop Cemetery.

KILVINGTON.—On Feb 15th, suddenly, at his home in Southport, Queensland, on his 62nd birthday, Captain Desmond Kilvington, late of Brighton and 55 Pont Street, London. Letters to Sir Patrick Kilvington, 21 Gilmour Lane, Lodrrs Creek, Southport, Queensland. "Tis all a chequer board of nights and days where destiny with men for pieces plays."

LANGLEY, WILLIAM THOMAS VICTOR, priest, aged 78. Very dear husband of Monica, peacefully on 14th February after a short illness but with increasing handicaps borne with great gallantry and fortitude. Requiem: 8 am and funeral service at 11 am, on Thursday, 19th February, at St. Mary's, Ilminster, followed by cremation. Family flowers only, but if desired donations ...

GOUDIE.—On 14th February, 1981, peacefully after an illness borne with great courage, Eric James Topham, beloved husband of Wendy, father of Sue & father-in-law of Bill. Funeral 2.30 p.m. Thursday, 19th February at St. Denys Church, Little Compton, Moreton in Marsh. Thanksgiving service will be held in London at a later date.

GREEN.—On 13th February, 1981, Lewis, aged 70 years, of 39 Through Duncans, Woodbridge (Freeman of The City of London), dearly loved husband of Emily. Funeral service on Thursday, 19th February, at Ipswich Crematorium, North Chapel, at 1.45 p.m. Flowers may be sent to The Co-operative Chapel of Rest, New St., Woodbridge.

HARCLERODE.—On February 14th 1981, suddenly in hospital, Hugo Lansbery, dearly loved husband of Vyvy, much loved father of Peter and Sally and adored grandfather of Edwina and Zoë. Funeral service for family and close friends. Enquiries to W. R. Bourton & Son, Reading 53835.

... be sent to Ashwell Church Restoration Fund.

WARD.—On February 13th, suddenly, aged 73 years, M. de S. C. (Mick), husband of Rachel. Funeral service at Little Somerford Church, Wiltshire, on Thursday, February 19th at 2.15 p.m. Family flowers only.

WHELPTON.—On 13th February, peacefully, at St. Helen's Hospital, Hastings, Eric (author), beloved husband of Barbara. Funeral Service at St. Mary's Church, Rye, on Tuesday, February 24th, 2.15 p.m., followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, please.

YOUNG.—On February 15th, 1981, Nina Mary Aline Young (nee Seely) beloved wife of the late Wing Commander M. J. B. Young and mother of Andrea, William and David. Funeral Monday, February 23rd, at 2 pm, Our Lady of Victories RC Church, Southwell, Notts. Interment Westborough Churchyard. Flowers to Bamfords, Funeral Directors, Nottingham. Donations to the Nottinghamshire Hospice, Woodborough Rd, Nottingham.

DEATHS

WHITE.—On 13th February, 1981, in hospital, Hilda Emily White, of Hampstead, aged 70 years. Cremation service at Golders Green on Friday, 20th February at 11.10 am (Bedford Chapel). Flowers may be sent to Leverton & Sons Ltd., 181 Haverstock Hill, N.W.3 (01-586 4221).

MEMORIAL SERVICES

MACDONALD.—A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life and Work of Malcolm MacDonald, PC, OM, will be held in Westminster Abbey at 12 noon on Tuesday 3 March, 1981. Applications for tickets should be made to the Secretary General (MM), The Royal Commonwealth Society, 18 Northumberland Avenue, London, WC2N 5BJ, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. Seats will be available for non-ticket holders.

IN MEMORIAM

MORTIMER.—In proud and loving memory of John Elphinstone Bates Mortimer, Lieut., King's Own Scottish Borderers, killed in action in Burma, Feb 17, 1944.

BURKE, CHARLES, Grays Inn, died 17th February, 1971, husband of Mary for whom loved memories are a continuing support and inspiration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUCATION

Cookery courses, Business and Secretarial courses, Remedial Tuition for Adults and Children, Language Schools and Courses, Management Training Courses. —Whichever you provide, The Times can put you in contact with potential pupils and students—through The Times Educational feature on February 25th. For more information or to book your advertisement

Ring Stella Scrivener ...

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 22

UK HOLIDAYS

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION owners in Devon, Cornwall, Dorset and Somerset: if your hotel, guest house, cottage or flat is fully booked for the whole of 1981, ignore this announcement. If not, phone Fiona now on 01-837 3311, then put your feet up while our "Holidays in Great Britain and Ireland" feature works for you.

NEW FOREST.—A full range of riding and pony trekking holidays in the beautiful New Forest available throughout 1981. Staying in a centrally heated country mansion and enjoy some of the finest riding in England. Novices to experienced riders. Marchwood Park, Marchwood, Hampshire. Tel: 0703 844355.

SHORT LETS

INSTANT FLATS, Chelsea. Luxury serviced. Mr Page. 373 3433.

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HEANEY MARLAR TRAVEL 36 Ebury St, SW1, Dept (TT) 01-730 8706 ATOL 1102B

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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We reckon we offer the most efficient and friendly flight service in England—but then we would! Our Summer Flight Brochure is now ready and you really ought to see it before booking with anyone else.

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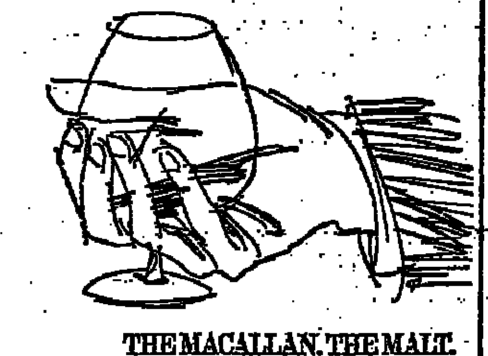
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(continued on page 22)

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The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,452

ACROSS

1 Note in her writing by divine messenger (6).
5 Court terribly slack—legal bigwig will sit on it (8).
9 Roving with one's tykes in a steep descent (10).
10 Whence Corporal Violet was able to return (4).
11 Black girl student has no entry in this old form of tenure (8).
12 John's not short of cash (6).
13 Fire mostly to scare birds (4).
15 Old-style cowboy there—and new-style? (8).
18 Declared a defaulter, as a lot may be? (8).
19 The end for all classical wayfarers (4).
21 Butt for actors too gets a part (6).
23 About to get fish out of river, to economize (8).
25 Polish enthusiast (4).
26 The shape, frankly, of the Cape of Good Hope (10).
27 Chancellor sadly docked two quid for trespass (8).
28 Pictures men of intelligence to include others who are backward (6).

DOWN

2 Somewhat idle-sounding flower-girl (5).
3 Many a mugger MO's reformed in this big world (9).
4 Kind—that's Sally (6).
5 Brother Muslim, unlike the lilies of the field (8, 7).
6 Nothing like devouring poetry when abroad (8).
7 Form lying on the beach (5).
8 Main line message (9).
14 Pain made breath difficult before run perhaps (9).
16 Most colourful player at Twickenham? (9).
17 Places where different clubs used, we hear, to supply drink (5, 3).
20 Leading centre-half hit—out of the race (6).
22 Chest (no lid) for sale on this (5).
24 Deeply romantic fissure in Xanadu's hillside (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,451

WORTHY BARNACLE / THOUGHT CARPETS / HEADHUNTER TONY / OUTINGS INEXACT / DUCHESS TABITHA / PINE PETROL PUMP / REFINED PESETAS / HEREWARD ASSETS

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